Daily Report

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Yugoslavia

Bosnia-Hercegovina—President Alija Izetbegovic addressed citizens on Sarajevo television to combat rumors spreading in the capital, TANJUG reports. He termed the rumors "a special war against Bosnia-Hercegovina" and urged residents to "contribute to easing and defusing the situation with calm actions." "The situation... is under control," Izetbegovic said, adding that the joint Yugoslav People's Army-Bosnia Internal Affairs Ministry patrols have made "the greatest contribution to calming the situation, although they are not the best solution" and stressed that the patrols "are under civilian control."

General Milutin Kukanjac, commander of the Army district of Bosnia-Hercegovina, in an interview with Sarajevo television rejected rumors of a military coup in the republic, TANJUG reports. He emphasized that "peace is also a condition for normal army activities" and called for a "more active" role of civilian authorities "to prevent disruptions of normal activities." A statement of the 2d Military District Command claims that "despite the fact that the leadership of Bosnia-Hercegovina and the leaders of political parties have publicly paid tribute" to the Yugoslav People's Army "we are witnessing a continuing campaign of defamations and insinuations in the media..." "The Army's constructive and unbiased conduct in seeking a peaceful solution to the current crisis has also been manifestly demonstrated" "over the past 48 hours."

In a news conference, Irfan Ajanovic, member of the Party of Democratic Action, said his party is "making efforts to defuse the situation in both Sarajevo and the republic and to restore peace in the region." Ajanovic said that "the Muslim nation, has put its defense forces on the move. They are prepared to defend Sarajevo together with all other defense forces, both Serb and Croat. Muslims outside Bosnia-Hercegovina and Sarajevo have offered to help including aid by air."

Romania

President Ion Iliescu said he is "still thinking" whether it is "time for me to step down or not" at a celebration marking his 62d birthday, ROMPRES reports, noting that the presidential elections are scheduled "in a few months." Iliescu told a television audience that the recent elections were a "major moment" in the move toward establishing law and democracy in Romania. Iliescu said that in times of crisis the ruling party "has always been subject to a diminished popularity," and noted that the low voter turnout "expresses... insatisfaction" with the economy and elected officials. Iliescu said he did not believe that the electorate had become estranged "from those whom they had voted [for] in 1990" and that the shift of votes to the opposition was "not decisive in comparison with the very great absenteeism" from the polling booths.

Czechoslovakia

The Federal Assembly failed to pass three amendments to the CSFR Constitution on the legislative and executive branches' powers and the position of the head of state, according to Prague radio. The debate turned into one "almost exclusively" between Slovaks when deputies exchanged "views and invectives." According to Assembly Deputy Chairman Zdenek Jicinsky, "at one stage... the business-like spirit... vanished." Consequently, in the 5-6 June parliamentary elections, deputies will be elected to the Chamber of the People and the Chamber of Nation's two national sections under the present constitutional organization.

Albania

Looting continues in the town of Librazhd where eight people were arrested after confrontations with police, Tirana radio reports. Meanwhile, the leaders of the various political parties have begun to include mention of the recent disturbances in their campaign speeches. ATA reports that Democratic Party (DP) Chairman Sali Berisha said that "the wave of plunders... has nothing

in common with democracy" and that the "democrats" are not to blame for events, but rather people of "doubtful morale." Republican Party Chairman Sabri Godo said the recent events were "leading the country" toward "anarchy" and therefore "threatening" free elections. Godo blamed "the communists" and released "officers of security" who "fear losing privilges." The Socialist Party's Political Commission linked the events to "the chain of actions undertaken by the DP and its partners."

Eight Arrested in Librazhd Looting

AU0403155892 Tirana Radio Tirana Network in Albanian 1430 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] Our Librazhd correspondent Esat Cucllari reports that crowds of people gathered around the town's retail storehouses again at about 1800 yesterday. Although the forces of order appealed to them to disperse, they succeeded in breaking into one of the warehouses and stealing an unknown amount of clothing and other goods. They threw stones at the forces of order and some policemen were injured. The police succeeded in repulsing the crowd by firing into the air, but the crowds persisted in their efforts. The situation was normalized when forces for the reestablishment of order arrived from Elbasan. These forces seized various people in possession of stolen goods. Eight of these people were arrested and will face criminal charges. On their way to the police station, the police vehicles were struck by stones. Policemen were injured and the vehicles' windows were broken.

Campaign Speeches Take Note of 'Recent Events'

AU0403150192 Tirana ATA in English 1035 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] Tirana, March 4 (ATA)—The chairman of the Albanian Democratic Party [DP], Mr. Sali Berisha, had several meetings in the district of Gjirokaster recently in the context of the electoral campaign. During these meetings he pointed out among others that after elections the DP will guarantee order and tranquility and that it will reform the local power. Speaking of the wave of plunders of the recent days in some districts of the country he said that it has nothing common with democracy, because there are not the democrats to be blamed for them but those people who with their doubtful morale continue to cause great turbulences in the country. Tomorrow, he said, we shall all be equal before the law.

In a meeting in the agricultural enterprise of Sukth, Durres District, the chairman of the Republican Party, Mr. Sabri Godo, said among others that the recent events in various districts of the country are leading the country towards general anarchy thus threatening the free elections. This is a political terror and has not to do with democracy. Democracy needs order. These are organized by the communists and officers of security who are released, because they fear losing privileges and revenge against them. But democracy does not mean revenge, he said.

These days the Political Commission of the Socialist Party [SP] discussed on the recent events in some districts of the country. These events are not and should not be considered separated from the chain of actions undertaken by the DP and its partners, which are already known, as slanders and actions of psychological terror, the efforts for sabotage with violence and vagabond-like acts the meetings of the leaders of the Socialist Party with its members and sympathizers, threats to the members of the SP and the rank and file that if they will vote for the SP their houses will be set on fire, or they will be killed.

Recently, the chairman of the Party of National Unity, Mr. Idajet Beqiri, had a meeting with the people of the district of Mirdite. At this meeting he concentrated mainly on the peculiarities of the election campaign for the People's Assembly and argued that these elections are not free. The Electoral Law is antidemocratic. This Electoral Law, through its articles, excludes from the right of election as deputy the best figures of the nation and up to the most distinguished jurists of the country.

Student Union Protests Death of Student

AU0403181492 Tirana Radio Tirana Network in Albanian 1700 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] A statement by the All-Albanian Independent Student Union says that, having learned of the terrible event that occurred a few days ago at Sukth near Durres in which a Shkoder University student was maltreated, we protest this ugly act and strongly support the university faculty and students in their demand that the culprits be identified as soon as possible.

As has been reported, student Leonard Arapi died as a result of this inhuman crime. It is not the first time that students have been victims of such acts of terrorism, which began with the use of rubber truncheons in December 1990 and continued with the political murder of Arben Broci, the violence in Shkoder Police Station against university students, and the frequent seizure of students, even in broad daylight, by unidentified persons. Such incidents are recurring today in an equally aggressive manner, such as the most recent case of the painful death of our colleague.

There has been no lack of provocation against student movement leaders, which inevitably leads one to believe there is a definite motivation behind such incidents. The student body does not constitute a hunting reserve. By loudly raising our voices again, we demand of the government and president that the culprits for this bestial act be found and that such actions that endanger our lives be stopped, all the more so today when our people need calm and security more than anything else.

Journalists Protest Attacks at Socialist Event

AU0403192092 Tirana Radio Tirana Network in Albanian 1430 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] A protest of the Albanian Journalists' League addressed to the Information Center in Tirana, the Central Electoral Commission, and President Ramiz Alia states that some Socialist Party supporters, who had come to attend the news conference of Socialist Party Chairman Fatos Nano, insulted and attacked the journalists at the Information Center in the Palace of Congresses no more than two hours after the Albanian

Journalists' League had finished the discussion titled *Free Journalism in the Face of Pressure and Threats.*

To go no further into the low, antidemocratic, and fascist character of this act, the Albanian Journalists' League vigorously protests and demands that measures be taken:

—Not to allow anyone except journalists to enter the news conference hall in the Information Center.

—To fully safeguard journalists while they are in the building.

—To obtain a public apology for the 29 February incident.

The journalists also demand that schedules and agendas for news conferences should be announced several days beforehand so that journalists and not party supporters, will take part in them. If these demands are not met, the Albanian Journalists' League and its members will boycott the news conferences.

Legality Movement Abstains From Elections

AU0403181692 Tirana Radio Tirana Network in Albanian 1430 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] A statement by the Legality Movement announces that this party, traditionally led by the principle of the homeland above everything and even now putting national interests above those of the party, has decided not to take part in the electoral campaign in order to not create confusion and divisions among voters. The Legality Movement appeals to voters and to its members and supporters to vote for the anticommunist opposition, so that communism in Albania will be buried once and for all.

Republican Party Summarizes Electoral Program

AU0403144692 Tirana ATA in English 1256 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] Tirana, March 4 (ATA)—In its latest issue the newspaper "REPUBLIKA" carries the Electoral Program of the Republican Party [RP]. The chapter "On Human Rights" of this program stresses among the other things that the main goal of the RP is to make Albania a free, independent, sovereign republic, with a profoundly democratic order. Whereas in the chapter "On National Unity" the program underlines that the Republican Party considers the struggle for national unity its first hand duty, an indispensable condition for prosperity and perspective socioeconomic development of the country, to the interest of the whole Albanian nation. To this end the Republican Party is involved in adopting an objective attitude towards all the processes that have taken place in the last decades in the country's life.

The chapter "On the Economic Development of the Country" says that in order to guarantee human rights and strengthening of national unity, the Albanian Republican Party considers as a sine qua non condition the economic development of the country towards market economy. It upholds that there can be no freedom of man without economic independence. The Albanian Republican Party will strive by all manner of means to help different strata of the people to find the truth in a society where respect and understanding prevail among strata of the people, amongst persons of different trades, ages and sex, despite their regional, religious and party belonging but relying on the law. In the field of agriculture and countryside, the Albanian Republican Party will devote particular care to the efforts for the development of agriculture, in order to improve the life in our countryside quickly and as soon as possible.

The market economy, as the highest form of expression of democracy in economy, stresses the chapter "In the Field of Industry and Other Branches of Economy" creates the necessary conditions to freely express the initiative and personality of every individual and to get the reward he deserves. This is realized only by establishing private property on the means of production in all the cells of our economy.

In a free society the freedom of speech, press and information are inviolable, organically linked with the defence and development of democracy. The development of talents and abilities, as attributes of free man, cannot be attained without an all-sided development of education, culture, arts and sports relying on the democratic foundations, the program says further on.

The Republican Party Electoral Programme closes with the chapter "On Foreign Policy" saying among others that in order to integrate into the democratic processes and the international political life, safeguarding in every case the lofty interests of the country's independence and sovereignty, in conformity with the international documents of UNO, Paris Charter and others, the RP, as a party with a clear-cut national profile, will fight to follow a peaceful foreign policy with lively relations of cooperation and mutual respect. Observing all the rights of national minorities in Albania RP will powerfully support the rights of the Albanians residing outside the territory of the Republic of Albania, despite the fact whether they are political or economic emigrants and the time they have emigrated. It will fight against chauvinism, against threat and violence, against dictate and social and political discrimination, against any racist and warmongering act. The RP recognises the Republic of Kosovo as an independent and sovereign state and at the same time demands the recognition of the right to self-determination for the Albanians residing in Montenegro, Macedonia and southeastern Serbia. The RP commits itself to discuss and solve the Cam problem in the spirit of the UN charters. The unification of the Albanian nation remains dependent on the Albanians' desire residing in their soil outside territory of the Republic or who have emigrated. In this aspiration of uniting the unjustly truncated nation, the RP is against the use of force.

Foreign Minister Holds News Conference 4 March

Explains 'Struggle' at Ministry

AU0403112292 Sofia Khorizont Radio Network in Bulgarian 1000 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] On 4 March in Sofia Stoyan Ganev, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs, gave a news conference, at which he answered numerous questions from journalists.

The foreign minister spoke about certain practical results of his meetings in Romania, Serbia, and Macedonia, which took place last week, drew attention to Bulgaria's upcoming participation in the 10 March session of the North Atlantic Cooperation Council, which will take place in Brussels, and answered questions related to the changes at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

[Begin Ganev recording] The changes that took place and will take place at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs obviously negatively influence certain people. Scripts and plans to destabilize the situation are being prepared. Hence, decisive actions must be taken. Indeed, we spoke in the past about those measures, and now is the time to activate them. I suppose that many of you will be surprised. This is a result of the circumstances that have emerged, namely, that a real struggle is now taking place in Bulgaria. For you perhaps this struggle is invisible, but unfortunately, it became an integral part of our life, and I mean every hour, every minute, and even every second. We will not relinquish victory in this struggle. Objectively, we have the possibility to force those retrograde forces that cannot reconcile with the fact that they are losing their positions—a process that will acquire catastrophic dimensions for them in the coming weeks—to understand what their real place is, or rather, to assume the place they really deserve.

By this I mean former employees of State Security, some of whom continue to be such employees even now. Those people have no place in the system of the Foreign Ministry. In the next few days I will address the National Assembly and will request to publish the list of names of all those who were State Security employees and were or still are members of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. All those members of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who until 10 November 1989 were engaged in the structures of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee will be dismissed.

Tomorrow I will report at the Council of Ministers and will propose to reduce the payroll of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs by 200 slots. [end recording]

As far as the notorious list of Foreign Ministry employees connected with the intelligence services is concerned, Minister Ganev said that he heard about this list, but personally he had not seen it. He explained his position on control over the intelligence services.

[Begin Ganev recording] This is a fundamental issue. I mean control over the secret services and the mechanism of their activity. I must say that in recent years this control practically did not exist. I do not mean control on the part of a certain person or persons, but rather parliamentary control. There is no such control at present, among other things, because the constitution does not provide for such control. As long as this situation exists it will not be possible to exercise full control over the intelligence service. The situation with the National Security Service is different. It can be controlled by the parliament, because this service is a part of the executive power. The fundamental issue about the place of foreign intelligence in the system of the state organs also must be addressed. [end recording]

Hopes for Balkan 'Helsinki Process'

AU0403212692 Sofia BTA in English 2057 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] Sofia, March 4 (BTA)—"There is a need for a Balkan Helsinki process," Mr. Stoyan Ganev, minister of foreign affairs, told a press conference today. He added that one of the tasks of his latest tour of the Balkan countries was to discuss opportunities for achieving this goal.

Mr. Ganev said that in Bucharest Bulgaria and Romania had agreed to coordinate their efforts for a possible convening of a Balkan Helsinki Forum. The Serbian leadership also expressed interest in this initiative. "I am sure that a peaceful solution to the Yugoslav crisis will be found soon and then the forum will be given top priority," Mr. Ganev said. "However, we cannot sit idle, we should think about the future, about security and stability in the Balkans which is related to adapting the Balkan realities to the Helsinki process."

Mr. Ganev stressed that Bulgaria would like to develop its cultural and economic ties with the Republic of Macedonia. This may be facilitated by opening information and cultural centres in Skopje and Sofia. Bulgaria has also suggested that the citizens of the two neighbouring republics be given the opportunity to read the newspapers published in Sofia and Skopje.

The foreign minister stressed that the problem of establishing diplomatic relations with Macedonia will be settled in accordance with the decision of the European Community. "I am glad," Mr. Ganev said in this connection, "that in Skopje I was assured that Macedonia has no territorial claims on Bulgaria."

According to Mr. Ganev, Bulgaria will seek to solve minority problems in a way that will help head off conflicts in interstate relations.

Mr. Ganev expressed his satisfaction with the fact that neither Bulgaria nor Serbia have any territorial claims on each other which is appreciated in Belgrade as well. He stressed, however, that Bulgaria will keep bringing up the problems of the Bulgarian minority in Serbia. The way

these problems were raised during Mr. Ganev's visit did not arouse the animosity of the Serbian side.

Says Electricity Cuts Avoidable

AU0503090092 Sofia BTA in English 2043 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] Sofia, March 4 (BTA)—"The country could have avoided electricity rationing. It has installations for generating 14,000 megawatts of electricity but only 5,000 megawatts were generated over the last couple of days," Mr. Stoyan Ganev, Bulgaria's deputy prime minister, told a press conference today. Mr. Ganev has appointed a special commission to analyse the current state of Bulgaria's power engineering.

Mr. Ganev expressed his disappointment at the lack of coordination in the control over the power generation system and in the organization of work at the Kozloduy N [nuclear power] -Plant. He suggested that the government reorganize the work of the Power Engineering Committee.

The special commission headed by Associate Professor Konstantin Shushulev recommended that a ministry of power engineering be set up which will be in charge of all generating facilities in the country. It also suggested that all generation facilities in Bulgaria be brought under the control of the National Electrical Company immediately.

Kozloduy Director Rejects Conspiracy Allegation

AU0403132792 Sofia DEMOKRATSIYA in Bulgarian 28 Feb 92 p 1

[Lyubomir Yordanov article: "Fifth Reactor Will Probably Be Restarted by 1 March"]

[Text] The 3:1 regime [three hours of electric power followed by one hour without electricity], could be canceled by 1 March, when the restart of the Fifth Reactor of the Kozloduy Nuclear Power Plant is scheduled. If the repaired collars of the turbine generator do not vibrate, the restrictions will be canceled, Ivan Ivanov, director of the Fifth and Sixth Reactors, said. He expressed disagreement with the reports about a conspiracy at the nuclear power plant. According to him, this allegation incorrectly harms the power supply workers' professionalism and morale. However, the director confirmed that the cause of the breakdown that prompted the shutdown of the Fifth Reactor has not been clarified yet. In addition, the communication line with the chief engineer of the nuclear power plant was disrupted during the night of the breakdown. Ivan Ivanov maintains that the Committee on Power Supply was aware of the problems of the Fifth Reactor and knew that it must be shut down. He himself assumed a great risk in allowing the 1,000 megawatt reactor to function. This was done because he was aware of the difficulties the country is experiencing. Some of the Fifth Reactor workers were scalded by the steam, but they nevertheless continued to work. Both the former and present leaders of the nuclear power plant expressed their opinion about the situation there. Mr. Kiril Nikolov, former member of the National Assembly, said that the nuclear power plant has enough problems, which have been ignored for years. There is no conspiracy at the nuclear power plant, and if there is any malicious intention—it could be carried out not by high or middle-level employees, but by the executive personnel, Mr. Nikolov said. If this is true, one must ask: Who is inspiring the perpetrators?

Engineer Kozma Kuzmanov, the new director of the Kozloduy Nuclear Power Plant, denies the possibility of malicious acts. He sees as his important tasks the creation of maximum favorable conditions for nuclear safety at the First and Second Reactors, restoring the normal functioning of the Fifth and Sixth Reactors, and training the personnel to strictly observe the rules.

BSP Favors Presidential Control of Intelligence

AU0503090192 Sofia BTA in English 2117 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] Sofia, March 4 (BTA)—Members of the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP] (formerly Communists) and the extraparliamentary opposition today supported President Zhelev's position on the fate of the National Intelligence Service.

A couple of days ago the parliamentary faction of the ruling Union of Democratic Forces (SDS) suggested that the intelligence service be brought under the control of the government and parliament while the president insisted that the service remain under his control. The controversy between the president and the SDS followed an attempt to discredit Foreign Minister Stoyan Ganev and Ahmed Dogan, leader of the Movement for Rights and Freedoms (of the ethnic Turks).

Today the Union for Social Democracy (ideological movement in the BSP) and the leadership of the Bulgarian Agrarian Party (United) backed the president just as leaders of centrist extraparliamentary groupings and the Rakovski Officers' Legion did a few days ago. "TRUD," a newspaper close to the Confederation of Independent Trade Unions, runs a signed article, according to which circles in the SDS are trying to curtail presidential power.

Federal Assembly Fails To Amend Constitution

LD0503110292 Prague Stanice Ceskoslovensko Radio Network in Czech 1800 GMT 3 Mar 92

[Jan Kulhavy report on the 21st Federal Assembly joint session in Prague on 3 March]

[Text] The attempt to reach an acceptable compromise in the debate on amending three chapters of the federal constitution has also failed this time. Where was the problem? Let us say that it is in the same place. At the last, 20th joint session held two weeks ago, the vote failed because of two demands from the Party of the Democratic Left and other Slovak opposition parties to anchor, even in this amendment, the principle and subjects of the treaty between the republics and the principle that the national councils must ratify all constitutional changes. The Czech parties did not accept this.

Today's debate turned almost exclusively into one between Slovaks. Representatives of the government and opposition parties exchanged views and invectives so that Zdenek Jicinsky, first deputy chairman of the Federal Assembly, was forced to say at one stage that the relatively promising and business-like spirit of the debate at the 20th joint session had vanished once again.

This was also reflected in the final outcome of today's vote. I reiterate that the Federal Assembly deputies did not approve the amendment to the three chapters of the Federal Constitution. Approval of these amendments in the Chamber of Nations failed by five votes. Therefore, as far as the legislative and executive powers and the position of the head of state are concerned the present constitutional oragnization continues to be in force. As voters, we will elect deputies in the same way as before to the Chamber of the People and two national sections of the Chamber of Nations. At present, in practice these have been blocked and have found it difficult to take action. This may remain the case in the future.

Federal Assembly Elections To Be Held 5-6 Jun

AU0503135292 Prague CSTK in English 2012 GMT 3 Mar 92

[Text] Prague March 3 (CSTK)—The general elections in Czechoslovakia will be held next June 5-6, the Federal Assembly (parliament) Presidium decided at its session today. Under the law on elections to the Federal Assembly, the Presidium decided that 101 deputies to the House of the People will be elected in the Czech Republic and 49 deputies in the Slovak Republic.

The Czechoslovak parliament has two chambers: The 150-seat House of the People, whose composition is proportional to the number of Czechs and Slovaks living in Czechoslovakia (10.3 million and 5.3 million respectively), and the 150-seat House of Nations with a parity composition (75 deputies from each republic). The Slovak National Council (parliament) decided to hold elections to the council on the same date, the Czech National Council will decide on the date Wednesday [4 March]. The 21st session of the Czechoslovak parliament, which opened today, continues Wednesday.

Prokes Sees No Isolation of Independent Slovakia

AU0403131392 Prague CSTK in English 1228 GMT 2 Mar 92

[Text] Bratislava March 2 (CSTK)—Slovak National Party (SNS) Chairman Jozef Prokes today said he "cannot see any reasons for fears that the Slovak Republic, after declaring independence, might be internationally isolated." Speaking at a press conference after his return from a working visit to the United States and Canada, Prokes said during his stay he explained the reasons why the SNS has been struggling for Slovakia's independence.

Asked whether or not the United States agrees with Czechoslovakia's breakup, Prokes replied the United States is not against disintegration in a constitutional way. He said his impression was that information in the U.S. mass media on real developments in Slovakia were often superficial and distorted. During his visit, Prokes met with U.S. ex-President Ronald Reagan and delivered a speech in the City Council in Los Angeles.

Czech Parliament Reacts to Slovak Treaty Demands

AU0503101792 Prague TELEGRAF in Czech 28 Feb 92 p 1

["VK" report: "A Clumsy Attempt"]

[Text] Prague—A discussion on the next course of action to be taken in the constitutional and legal arrangement issue formed part of the agenda at yesterday's Czech National Council [CNR] Presidium session.

Dagmar Buresova (Civic Movement) stated that the deputies' clubs will submit their comments to the political board next week. These comments will be conveyed to the Slovak side. It should then be possible to meet with the Slovak National Council Presidium. CNR Deputy Chairman Jan Kalvoda (Civic Democratic Alliance) said that the exhortation to rediscuss the Milovy text in the deputies' clubs is a clumsy attempt to shift the entire issue—which is leading to a political crisis—from the Slovak side to the Czech side.

He also said that if the reports about the Slovak side's objections are correct, these involve such fundamental reservations that the negotiations would no longer be about the joint state. "In this case, I consider further negotiations pointless."

In reply to a question from our reporter on whether the radical wing in the Christian Democratic Movement grouped around Mr. Klepac has triumphed, even though J. Carnogursky ostensibly remains chairman, J. Kalvoda said that there has been no clash between the realist and

separatist wings. Mr. Carnogursky has simply clad himself in Mr. Klepac's clothes and is speaking with his voice.

The date of the elections was another item on the Presidium's agenda. The Presidium members expressed the view that the elections should be held on 12 and 13 June and not on 5 and 6 June, because this would give the CNR more time to discuss some of the laws submitted by the Czech Government.

ODS, KAN Agree To Cooperate in Elections

LD0403171292 Prague CSTK in English 1326 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] Prague March 4 (CSTK)—The Civic Democratic Party [ODS] and the club of Committed Non-Party People [KAN] agreed to cooperate in the campaign before the June 5-6 parliamentary election, ODS press secretary Jiri Schneider told press conference in Prague today. He added, however, that KAN's representatives will not appear on the ODS slates in Bohemia's electoral districts. According to Schneider, it is not yet clear whether KAN's candidates will be included in the ODS slates in Slovakia's electoral districts.

'Rightists' Seek 'Anti-Communist Front'

AU0503122492 Prague LIDOVE NOVINY in Czech 2 Mar 92 p 2

[CSTK report: "Control and Purging"]

[Text] Prague—Rightist parties participating in a nationwide meeting of Civic Commissions on 29 February called for the establishment of an anti-communist front. Commissions operate at the Federal Interior Ministry and at the interior ministries of both republics. They are initiative, advisory, and supervisory bodies for the problems concerning the police.

The meeting, in which Federal Deputy Interior Minister Jan Ruml participated along with several Federal Assembly and Czech National Council deputies, confirmed that it is important that civic control and security units be ruled by law. At the same time, the meeting was in favor of purging the police corps. P. Cermak, Civic Democratic Party deputy chairman, stressed that not only is the party that has the word "communist" in its name the enemy, but also the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia's posthumous children who use democratic slogans as a mask.

Czech National Council Deputy V. Suman (Civic Democratic Alliance) mentioned the Czech Republic Government report on the security situation, which has been criticized in the Czech National Council. He said that by the end of March the Czech National Council Petition Committee for Legal Protection and Security will draw up basic documents outlining the past activity of 6,000 officials of the Interior Ministry. Changes must be implemented by the interior minister, however. In this connection, the deputy criticized Czech Republic Interior Minister Tomas Sokol, who has become, in the deputy's words, an advocate of his sector and who cannot rely on his people—in a similar way to his predecessor.

The participants agreed on the fact that the list of the State Security informers of all categories must be made public, the crimes committed during the communist rule must not fall under the statute of limitations, people who have their share in these crimes must be prosecuted, and a law on anti-communist resistance must be adopted. The commissions seek the right to have access to the personal files of the policemen, as well as the civilian employees of the Interior Ministry.

The Civic Commission will be directed by a Coordinating Council that has been expanded to contain 24 members now. The new members must have the mandate of the party they represent.

Klaus Claims TV Statement Edited, 'Distorted'

AU0403192792 Prague TELEGRAF in Czech 27 Feb 92 p 1

["RS" report: "We Have Had Enough!"]

[Text] Prague— At a news conference with the Civic Democratic Party [ODS], its chairman, Vaclav Klaus, described the methods employed by Czechoslovak Television [CST] as "scandalous" and "incredible". According to what he said, "an official representing the CST" promised him that a full text explaining Klaus' stance on the CSFR-German treaty would be aired for two minutes on the *Czechoslovak Television Journal* program on 25 February. Instead of that, Klaus' appearance was broadcast on the *Events and Commentaries* program and, contrary to explicit agreement, its length was cut to one-third, and conseuqently the message was slightly distorted. Moreover, the last sentence, which was of principal importance, was intentionally omitted. This sentence reads: "I and the ODS, can provide assurances that we will not allow the property rights of the Czechoslovak citizens to be questioned."

"It is startling that the chairman of the opposition Communist Party had been given almost twice as much time," ODS Press Spokesman Jiri Schneider told us and he added that such habit does not exist in the mass media in democratic countries.

"We really have had enough," Klaus said about political parties and their representatives who "control the state owned mass media" and use them for their own election campaign.

Calfa Views 'Sensitive' Issues in German Treaty

AU0503082592 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 29 Feb 92 pp 1, 2

[Interview with Federal Prime Minister Marian Calfa by Jan Kovarik in Prague on 28 February: "Matters the Treaty Did Not Include"]

[Text] The report on the 27 February talks between Federal Prime Minister Marian Calfa and German Chancellor Helmut Kohl stated that they discussed a solution to the problems the treaty did not include. On the occasion of the chancellor's departure on Friday, we asked the prime minister what these issues were:

[Calfa] One of them was the truck transit through our territory. The CSFR believes that Germany should accommodate us in the agreement on the routine at the border. The main problem is the operation of German shipping companies. It seems that legal regulations prevent them from deciding on their own working time. We demand that the German legislation remove these barriers to enable them to work 24 hours a day and also on weekends and holidays.

[Kovarik] Was the modernization of our transport network also a topic of the talks?

[Calfa] On the basis of the EC Association Treaty, we assumed certain responsibilities in the transit from the south to the west. However, we do not have the necessary technical basis—we have only one suitable route from Komarno to the west—and ask therefore the EC through the Germans to help us furnish a highway, extend it to the western border, and establish there a well equipped crossing.

[Kovarik] How soon should this happen?

[Calfa] We need immediate help with truck transport. The highway should be completed approximately by 1997, and it should go as far as Nuremberg.

[Kovarik] Who will cover the costs?

[Calfa] The cost is estimated at DM [Deutsch marks] 550 million. We should cover approximately 40 million, Germany 80 million, and the remainder should be covered by credit. Our concern was that the German investment be considered a part of the assistance to help us join the EC network.

[Kovarik] Would it mean toll booths on the highway in the future?

[Calfa] German highways are free of charge, but I can imagine such a situation, because if we want to repay the money, we have no place to get it but the operation of the highway. On the other hand, experts say that money obtained from the operation of a highway is barely sufficient to maintain it.

[Kovarik] Did you also discuss job opportunities in Germany?

[Calfa] We have arranged for 8,000 jobs this year, of which 4,500 have already been filled. Germans train our labor exchange staff, and for this I thanked the chancellor. Both sides are interested in increasing the number of openings. We expressed our wish to make arrangements for approximately 20,000 jobs in the future. The chancellor promised that they will view the request favorably. The problem of the so-called commuters—who cross the border daily to go to work—is settled, the training of our apprentices was started, and the current concern is jobs in construction, because in this sphere we have available manpower.

[Kovarik] Do the illegal German border crossings continue?

[Calfa] It is a phenomenon that worries both sides. The appropriate bodies will have to boost their operation. I would not rule out cooperation with the German side, because it is a common border.

[Kovarik] Did you have the settlement of Germans here on the agenda?

[Calfa] No.

[Kovarik] Can a foreigner settle in Czechoslovakia now?

[Calfa] One of the EC norms requires the free movement of people. A foreigner can take up residence in Czechoslovakia with approval of the authorities. He cannot, however, purchase any real estate, and the residence permit is linked to a work permit.

[Kovarik] The treaty with Germany is to be ratified. Can you tell me when?

[Calfa] So far, the terms vary. Our parliament will deal with the document in March. They were talking about June. We demanded that it be bilaterally settled by the time of our elections so the parliament can leave with a clean slate. They promised to rush it, but the chancellor cannot speak for the Bundestag. The Bundestag must decide when the ratification procedure in the German parliament will take place.

[Kovarik] How would you assess the whole visit?

[Calfa] The visit was necessary. An unusually long time passed between the initialing (7 October 1991!—ed. note) and the signing—usually, one follows the other after approximately one month. I am aware of the existence of some controversial issues, that many questions are not settled, and it is a very sensitive affair. There also is an ongoing discussion about it in RUDE PRAVO. I would like to point out that we are doing everything we can to protect our interests. To suspect that we would do something against the interest of our people is nonsense. It is not in our program, and we do not have the right to do so.

Social Democracy Seeks Delayed FRG Treaty Debate

LD0503100192 Prague Stanice Praha Radio Network in Czech 1130 GMT 3 Mar 92

[Report on Czechoslovak Social Democracy news conference on 3 March by correspondent Jiri Hracek]

[Excerpts] At the beginning of the news conference, Social Democracy Party Chairman Jiri Horak read a statement from the presidium of the Czechoslovak Social Democracy. The statement says that the signing of the treaty between the Czech and Slovak Federatal Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany is meeting with opposition from the broadest public. As early as 1990, the Czechoslovak Social Democracy pointed out the dangers linked to the demands raised by the Sudeten German Landsmannschaft and in doing so referred to Sudeten German sources. [passage omitted]

The statement by the Czechoslovak Social Democracy leadership appeals to the Federal Assembly to consider whether the treaty with Germany should be ratified by the new parliament after the elections. [passage omitted]

Dienstbier Notes Importance of NATO to Europe

LD0403192592 Prague CSTK in English 2104 GMT 3 Mar 92

[Text] London March 3 (CSTK correspondent)—Many Central European countries recognise and appreciate the importance of NATO in guaranteeing the new Europe's stability and security more than some of their Western coounterparts, according to Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier. This was one of the messages Dienstbier delivered this afternoon in a speech to London's Royal Institute of International Affairs on the prospects for the new Europe. Contributing to the transformation of the former East bloc's militaries may give NATO a new role in Europe, he said.

NATO, the military alliance created after World War Two to bind together West European countries against the Soviet-led socialist bloc, may also serve an important function in the negotiations on disarmament and liquidation of conventional and nuclear weapons, Dienstbier noted. On the development of Czechoslovakia since the end of totalitarianism in late 1989, he said that the old structures are no longer functioning and the new ones have yet to start. It is impossible to say how long the transition to a market economy and a fully democratic society will last.

Dienstbier stressed the importance of current international structures in diminishing the destructive effects of Central and Eastern Europe's decaying totalitarian systems and in expanding the reach of political and economic stability.

Slovakia, Hungary To Form Parliament Commission

LD0303181892 Prague CSTK in English 1843 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Text] Bratislava March 2 (CSTK)—The Slovak parliament is ready to form a joint parliamentary commission with Hungary to deal with controversial issues of our common past, Slovak National Council (parliament) Chairman Frantisek Miklosko told CSTK today. Miklosko was hinting at statements made by Hungarian Foreign Ministry official Tamas Katona during Saturday's meeting of the Rakoczi Association in Budapest on the status of ethnic Hungarians living in Slovakia. Miklosko said he proposed to Hungarian parliament chairman Gyorgy Szabad already last year to create a joint commission. Szabad backed the idea, Miklosko said.

There was one meeting on the subject in December and another is scheduled for March. "We are ready to take a position on the transfer of Hungarians from Slovakia in 1945. We expect the Hungarian side will speak on questions painful for Slovakia", such as the act by which part of Slovakia's territory was ceded to Hungary in November 1938, Miklosko said. Miklosko said Slovakia wants to grant full rights to ethnic Hungarians living there, but also wants the same rights for ethnic Slovaks living in Hungary. "We are concerned with living on good neighbourly terms with the Hungarians", Miklosko concluded.

Carnogursky Comments on Hungarian Property Issue

AU0503133092 Bratislava SLOVENSKY DENNIK in Slovak 3 Mar 92 pp 1, 2

[CSTK report: "The Slovak Government Condemns the Principle of Collective Guilt"]

[Text] Bratislava—Slovak Prime Minister Jan Carnogursky reacted at yesterday's press briefing to the appeal issued by the Rakoczi Association in Budapest last weekend for the CSFR Government to renounce the Kosice Government Program (KVP). He said that "the Slovak Republic will not relinquish its responsibility for dealing with the Hungarian problem. It is a specifically Slovak problem and consequently, it must be said, a Czechoslovak problem.

"As far as the status of Hungarians in Slovakia after 1945 is concerned, it is impossible to equate their status with that of Germans in the Czech lands. The issue in Slovakia involved, first and foremost, a population transfer between Czechoslovakia and Hungary and, in this connection, an exchange or, as the case may be, the specific replacement of property. This means that Hungarian Slovaks who moved from Hungary to Slovakia after the war left their property there and, vice versa, ethnic Hungarian inhabitants of Czechoslovakia who were transferred after the war within the framework of the population exchange left their property here and that a specific fundamental property settlement was made. I will not go into the details—in my opinion, this is unnecessary—but no simple confiscation of property was involved here.

Notwithstanding, property belonging to Hungarians was confiscated on the basis of decrees issued by the president of the Republic in 1945 and on the basis of Slovak National Council [SNR] statute No. 104/1945. Law No. 229/1991 confirmed the validity of statute No. 26/1948

issued by the Corps of Commissioners and, on the basis of SNR law No. 330/1991, the claims of ethnic Hungarian Czechoslovak citizens whose property was confiscated after 1945 and who fulfill the criteria contained in the last aforementioned law will also be included in restitution claims. This means that restitution also concerns ethnic Hungarian citizens to a certain extent and, also to a certain extent, the property that was confiscated after 1945. It is apparent that the Slovak Government has in fact gone further back than the 25 February 1948 limit. The Slovak Republic has thus demonstrated the attempt it is making to ensure fundamental equality and fairness among its citizens.

"As far as the claims the Rakoczi Association has just formulated in Budapest, it is necessary to reiterate what I have already said. That is, after 1945 there was an exchange of populations between Hungary and Czechoslovakia, including a property exchange, and, as far as the overall framework of these events is concerned, the historical equivalent of the Kosice Government Program in relation to the Hungarian population was provided by the measures adopted by Hungary's Horthy Governmeat regarding the Slovaks on occupied territory in November and December 1938. Following the occupation of southern areas of Slovakia on the basis of the Vienna Arbitration, the Slovak inhabitants of these territories—first and foremost, public notaries, teachers, but also other categories of the population—were given eight to 12 hours to pack their most essential belongings and were transported to the new Hungarian- Slovak border where they were abandoned to their fate. All of this happened in 1938.

"The Slovak Government condemns the principle of collective guilt. In its declaration concerning the Carpathian Germans the SNR also explicitly condemned this principle. The Slovak Government also ultimately came to this conclusion and is adhering to it. While adopting a specific point of view on the Kosice Government Program, it is necessary to proceed from the premise that it evolved politically and psychologically from the situation caused by the aforementioned measures taken by the Hungarian Government in 1938. We are not opposed to a critical point of view being expressed against those parts of the KVP where the principle of collective guilt was applied with the proviso that a similar course of action should be exacted on the Hungarian side regarding those measures and steps of a similar nature adopted by the Hungarian Government against Slovaks."

Apart from their appeal to the CSFR Government, participants in the Rakoczi Association's assembly in Budapest on 29 February also appealed to the Hungarian Government to do everything it can during future negotiations with the Czechoslovak and Slovak Governments to win compensation. So far, this has been refused. Tamas Katona, Hungarian Foreign Ministry state secretary, said, among other things, that Hungarians must finally rid themselves of the feeling that they are at fault and that Hungary's task is now to make sure guarantees are provided for ethnic minorities in Europe.

Impact of Property Restitution Law Detailed

AU0503103392 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 29 Feb 92 pp 1, 3

[Zdenek Hoffmann article: "The State Wants To Return One-Half of Forests and, What Is More, Indemnify Original Owners"]

[Excerpts] Under the amendment to the law on the regulation of ownership relations to land and other agricultural property [passed on 18 February], which waived the upper limit of 250 hectares for the restitution of plots, some 500 original owners and their heirs will have returned to them their extensive forest estates in Bohemia and Moravia alone. [passage omitted]

The data cited in the following text concern forests only. In addition to forests, agricultural land, fish ponds, and other related property exceeding the originally set limit of 250 hectares will also be returned.

Billions of Indemnificationin Addition to Restitution in Kind

According to preliminary calculations, an additional 327,000 hectares of forests are to be returned to original owners and their heirs, on top of the original 960,000 hectares (provided for by the land law prior to its amendment). Of this, 287,000 hectares are to be returned to natural persons and 40,000 hectares to cooperatives made up of natural persons. Moreover, another 150,000 hectares of forests are also at stake, the restitution of which could be requested by the church and religious orders if the same rights are extended also to them (the respective bill will be debated in the Federal Assembly in March). To be specific, this could mean the reduction of the amount of forests in state ownership from the original 2,583,000 hectares to approximately 50 percent of that area.

But the amended land law does not provide only for the restitution of forests, it also enshrines the right to claim indemnification for the difference between the present and the original condition of the forest vegetation. This difference, according to our information, is valued at 48 billion korunas in the Czech Republic alone and at 80 billion korunas in the CSFR as a whole.

Who will receive, or can claim back, the largest forest areas? According to information that we obtained, this is true, first and foremost, of aristocratic families. They can claim back some 100,000 hectares, that is, roughly one-third of the expanded area to be restituted under the land law amendment. The Lobkovic family alone has acquired the right to claim back a minimum of 17,200 hectares of forests, mostly in northern Bohemia. [passage omitted] Other families that can assert a claim to more than 10,000 hectares of forests are the Kinskis—14,000 hectares; the Colloredo-Mansfelds—12,300 hectares; the Schwarzenbergs—11,650 hectares; and the Kolowrats—11,800 hectares. [passage omitted]

All this information is preliminary as the exact records have not been compiled yet. According to some additional information that we have, the final claims could be even higher.

'Duel' Foreseen Over Skoda-Siemens Nuclear Plant

LD0203202692 Prague CSTK in English 1330 GMT 29 Feb 92

[Text] Prague Feb 29 (CSTK)—Czech environmentalists are psyching up for a duel with the German giant Siemens over the possible construction of a nuclear heating plant, a scene that has been played out many times already in Western Europe but is still new to Czechoslovakia.

Today's issue of the Czech trade-union daily "PRACE" carries an article called "The Children of the Earth Versus Siemens", in which Katerina Jankova sketches the growing conflict over rumours that Siemens plans to cooperate with Skoda in the building of a nuclear heating plant in the West Bohemian town of Plzen (population 170,000). "Siemens has gotten into a big game and has invested (a lot) of money", Miroslav Suta of the Czech environmentalist group Children of the Earth told a press conference last week. "The town could find itself under great pressure if it allows Siemens into Skoda", he said. "The Deputy Mayor Zdenek Prosek has assured the public several times that the town backed out of the construction, but we are still concerned".

According to Jankova, the Germans were offering Skoda 100 million marks for the project. "After the initial talks", said Frantisek Kudej, a spokesman for Skoda, "both sides arrived at the opinion that a study of the technical resolution would be prepared". In May 1991 Siemens gave a copy of the study to the Plzen mayor's office at which point Siemens's involvement in the project came to an end, according to Kudej. They received no orders concerning the construction of the heating plant and were not invited to make any bids. Soon after, at the initiative of Skoda repesentatives and concerned university students and professors, a debate on nuclear heating began in the local press. Some of the articles, Kudej said, presented the issue as if the nuclear option had already been decided on.

The German chapter of Greenpeace, an international environmentalist group known for its activism against nuclear power, then entered the fray, writing in its publications that Siemens and Skoda were planning to build a nuclear reactor. "(That) is neither acceptable nor feasible given the high costs (it would involve)", Kudej said. Jankova describes the environmentalists' opposition so far as fighting "against a sandbox in the Sahara". The cause, she says, is a lack of information provided to the public by the Plzen town hall and the extension of the original deadline set for approving a new heating plan for the town, which all parties agree is necessary.

"As Deputy Mayor Prosek assured me, the town hall will definitely not give in to pressure from Skoda", Jankova writes. "When we consider that none even exists", she concludes, "one can assume that Czechoslovakia will not become an experimental country for the construction of Siemens nuclear heating plants".

Federation Most Favored State Form in Slovakia

AU0203155392 Prague CSTK in English 1346 GMT 27 Feb 92

[Text] Bratislava Feb 27 (CSTK)— Nearly half of Slovakia's population (48 percent), down 3 percent against last October, wants to live in a federation based upon the constitutions of two republics with equal rights, according to a survey published here today.

The survey, carried out by the Bratislava-based Institute for Public Opinion Research on February 1-10, asked 918 respondents over 18 throughout Slovakia. 19 percent of the respondents prefer living in an independent Slovak Republic (21 percent in last October). 9 percent favor a confederation and the same percentage wants a common state with a central government. The current model of a federation attracts 8 percent, 3 percent want to live in a state made up of provinces, and 3 percent do not know.

ODS, HZDS Favored in Respective Republics

AU0203155992 Prague CSTK in English 1544 GMT 27 Feb 92

[Text] Prague Feb 27 (CSTK)— The Civic Democratic Party (ODS) remains the most popular political party in the Czech Republic and the Movement For a Democratic Slovakia (HZDS) is holding its position as the most widely supported party in Slovakia, a February poll showed.

The poll, carried out earlier this month by the Prague- and Bratislava-based Institutes for Public Opinion Research asked 1,112 respondents which political party they would vote for if elections were held now. In the Czech Republic, 22 percent (up one point from last month) would vote for the right-wing ODS, headed by Czechoslovak Finance Minister Vaclav Klaus. The next most popular parties are the Czechoslovak Social Democratic Party (CSSD), with 10 percent, and the Communist Party of Bohemia and Moravia (KSCM), with 9 percent. The two parties also finished second and third in last month's poll.

In Slovakia, 31 percent (up 4 percent from January) favor the opposition center-left HZDS, led by former Slovak Premier Vladimir Meciar. Following was the Christian Democratic Movement (KDH) with 14 percent, the separatist Slovak National Party (SNS) with 12 percent, and the Democratic Left Party (SDL-former Communists) with 9 percent.

Visa Accord Suspended; 'Acceptable' to PRC

LD0503161492 Budapest Kossuth Radio Network in Hungarian 1400 GMT 5 Mar 92

[Text] The Chinese Government considers, according to international law, it acceptable that Hungary is partially suspending the earlier concluded agreement on mutual visa exemption. The spokesman of the Beijing Foreign Ministry told MTI that one of the clauses of the agreement enables this. The spokesman added that the Hungarian side, in accordance with diplomatic convention, informed in advance those responsible in Beijing about its intentions.

Military Cooperation Accord Signed With Ukraine

LD0503120292 Budapest Kossuth Radio Network in Hungarian 1700 GMT 3 Mar 92

[Text] A Hungarian-Ukrainian bilateral military cooperation agreement was signed in Budapest by Ukrainian Defense Minister Colonel General Konstantin Morozov, and his Hungarian counterpart, Lajos Fur. Agota Narancsik reports:

[Narancsik] The agreement seeks to shape cooperation on the basis of respect for mutual interests because a relationship between the armed forces may represent a stabilizing force of great significance in the region, Col. Gen. Morozov said at a news conference after the signing ceremony. The news conference was also attended by Defense Minister Lajos Fur, who has recovered from his illness, and Erno Raffay, political state secretary in the Defense Ministry.

In the first phase of cooperation, the agreement envisages regular consultations between military leaders and experts, an exchange of documents between the two armies, mutual visits, and exchanges of information.

Erno Raffay emphasized that the two countries would like to create close military-diplomatic relations in the future in the framework of which military attaches would operate both in Kiev and in Budapest. They also agreed that Hungary and Ukraine will cooperate more closely in the sphere of armaments and military industry.

Replying to a question, Lajos Fur said that the Soviet-Hungarian military agreement signed last December is valid to the successor states but it is unclear to what extent it extends to the individual states. For this reason, it is important that an agreement similar in character and content be concluded as soon as possible with neighboring Ukraine.

Uzbek Prime Minister Holds Talks in Budapest

Diplomatic Relations Established

LD0303224892 Budapest Kossuth Radio Network in Hungarian 1100 GMT 3 Mar 92

[Report by correspondent Istvan Kulcsar]

[Excerpt] This morning Foreign Minister Istvan Jeszenszky met with Uzbek Prime Minister Abdulhasim Mutalov, who is visiting our country. They signed a protocol on the establishment of the two countries' diplomatic relations and an agreement on cooperation between the two foreign ministries. At the meeting the foreign minister stressed that Hungary is ready to help the central Asian former Soviet republic, which has become independent, by sharing its experiences and with experts. [passage omitted]

Trade Agreement Signed

LD0303231192 Budapest MTI in English 1713 GMT 3 Mar 92

[Text] Budapest, March 2 (MTI)—A Hungarian-Uzbek agreement regulating the two countries' economic relations was signed by Hungarian International Economic Relations Minister Bela Kadar and Uzbek Prime Minister Abdulhasim Mutalov today. Under the agreement, the first signed by Hungary with an Asian republic of the former Soviet Union, Uzbek deliveries to Hungary will include cotton and chemicals. Hungary will export food, light industry products and buses to Uzbekistan. Bilateral trade this year can total 200 million US dollars.

Also, the document regulates the operation of JVs [joint ventures], investments and professional training exchanges. Cooperation talks are already underway between the Hungarian Credit Bank and the Uzbek National Bank.

Hungary had signed similar treaties with Bashkiria, Belarus, the Komi Republic, Lithuania, Russia and the Ukraine. The agreements open a possibility of conducting trade worth about 4 billion US dollars with republics of the former Soviet Union this year. Hungarian-Soviet trade last year totalled 2.9 billion dollars. Similar trade agreements are under preparation with Armenia, Azerbaijan, Estonia, Latvia and the Tatar Republic.

Goncz Offers Agricultural Expertise

LD0303230292 Budapest MTI in English 1925 GMT 3 Mar 92

[Text] Budapest, March 2 9MTI)—Under an aid scheme to the Commonwealth of Independent states, Hungary is ready to send experts to Uzbekistan if the republic specifies what help it needs from Hungary, Hungarian President Arpad Goncz said at talks with Uzbek Prime Minister Abdulhasim Mutalov today. Goncz offered Mutalov help mainly in the agricultural field. Uzbekistan wants to develop economic and trade ties with Hungary, Mutalov said adding Hungary is one of the Eastern European countries that were able to switch to a market-oriented economy without a considerable shock.

Defense Ministry's Annus Views Trip to Romania

AU0503095492 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 2 Mar 92 pp 1,3

[Interview with Lt. General Antal Annus, administrative state secretary at the Defense Ministry, by Peter Mag in Bucharest; date not given: "Soldiers Understand Each Other Better"]

[Text] A scientific conference was held in Bucharest over the weekend, a conference organized by the Hungarian and Romanian defense ministries, on the occasion of exchanging the recently ratified documents of the Open Skies agreement signed last year.

Because of Defense Minister Lajos Fur's illness, the Hungarian delegation was led by Antal Annus. The Hungarian delegation was received by Romanian Prime Minister Theodor Stolojan and then our delegation met and held talks with Romanian Defense Minister Nicolae Spiroiu.

Lt. General Antal Annus gave an interview to the NEPSZABADSAG correspondent in Bucharest.

[Mag] What was the atmosphere at the meeting between the representatives of the two countries' defense ministries?

[Annus] The Romanian defense minister showed understanding for the fact that Lajos Fur could not come because of his illness. During our entire program here, our talks with the Romanian defense minister, as well as during our talks with the prime minister, I felt that, just like us, the Romanian side is of the opinion that our cooperation is effective and it is extremely important to further develop this cooperation. As for issues on which there is controversy or misunderstanding, these should be discussed properly.

[Mag] What effect did the recent Romanian press campaign have on the atmosphere of your talks, a campaign related to Hungarian Lajos Fur's recent declarations in Miskolc?

[Annus] I did not notice any harmful effects. If the polemics were conducted with such an intent, I can say that they failed.

[Mag] What experiences did you draw from the scientific conference on the Open Skies agreement?

[Annus] No similar exchange of views has ever been held at such a level between the two countries. This in itself is extremely important. For these two nations, two countries, and two armies to better understand each other and to avoid the assertion of any harmful intentions, it is decisive to know each other's ideas, thinking, situation, and conditions very well and precisely. The broader this knowledge, the stronger the confidence. The possibility of evaluating each other by precisely knowing our endeavors and without misinterpretation is an extremely important factor of confidence.

On the other hand, the Open Skies agreement itself presents the two countries in their role of pioneers, because other countries have not yet signed such an agreement. The fact that Romania and Hungary were the first to sign such an agreement can provide an example.

There are regular meetings between the two countries' defense ministries at the highest level, and we also have contacts now at the troops commander level. The cooperation agreement between our air defense systems is operating well even at the level of assistance in case of accidents. We participated in each other's exercises and the issue of mutual verifications came up during these exercises. The two chiefs-of-staff have also signed the cooperation plan. All this shows that our contacts are developing in the right direction and are proving to be the building blocks of mutual confidence. We must continue this process. We must discuss and clarify everything that can be misinterpreted, has been misinterpreted or improperly understood, or is undesirable.

We continue to have mutual consultations about each other's security policy concepts, military doctrine, and army. All this means that we can develop an increasingly precise evaluation of each other with time. I would not like to overestimate this, but I would not like to underestimate these results either. These results are all the more important, because there are other undesirable situations and interpretations.

[Mag] Does that mean that the demons are slowly being eliminated from the area of Hungarian-Romanian military relations?

[Annus] This process is encouraging and it can go in this direction if the current will, intention, and series of actions continue to be valid. I heard from my Romanian partners that they also want this. This is really important.

Statute of Limitations Declared Unconstitutional

LD0403203392 Budapest MTI in English 1451 GMT 3 Mar 92

[Text] Budapest, March 3 (MTI)—The law on the "prosecutability of serious crimes committed between 21 December 1944 and 2 May 1990 and left unpunished for political reasons, contradicts the Constitution" Hungary's Constitutional Court ruled today. The court said the law runs counter to the current penal law provision defining the statute of limitations for crimes committed under the laws in effect at the time.

The court stated a change of regime in the legal sense means laws have to be coordinated with the constitution of the state based on the rule of law. As the change of regime in Hungary was based on legal continuity, all effective regulations must correspond to the new Constitution, court officials said. The law in question was passed by parliament on 4 November 1991 but has not taken effect. On 18 November, President Arpad Goncz asked the Constitutional Court to examine the law for

compliance with the Constitution. The law—submitted by Zsolt Zetenyi and Peter Takacs of the ruling coalition party Hungarian Democratic Forum—would have made it possible to take to court as yet untried cases of homicide and high treason.

Goncz Reacts to Court Ruling

LD0403212492 Budapest Kossuth Radio Network in Hungarian 1730 GMT 3 Mar 92

[Statement by President Arpad Goncz on the Constitutional Court ruling that the Statute of Limitations is unconstitutional, in Budapest on 3 March—recorded]

[Text] I therefore take cognizance of the decision which has been made, and I will act in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution. I am convinced that all responsible political forces and all participants in Hungarian public life will do the same. No one will try, in connection with the decision, to incite passions by influencing emotions, or to detonate disputes which harm the country's international reputation and divert attention from our problems, which await a solution.

However, I am also aware that this law has aroused social tensions, and behind these lie, for the most part, not an unchecked desire for revenge, but bitterness over the endured illegalities and indignation at the committed crimes. Therefore, what is at issue is not simply a constitutional law problem, but something more: An issue which touches on the sense of justice of a people. Since the Republic of Hungary is a democratic legal state, it must respect the voluntarily accepted restrictions of legal statehood, and no matter how grave these crimes which were committed might be, it can apply a calling to account of their perpetrators only by respecting the Constitution and constitutional laws, even if the perpetrators of the crimes in the past crudely disregarded not only the provisions of the Constitution in force at the time, but also the most fundamental requirement of humaneness.

Yet calling to account on the basis of penal law is one thing, and disclosing the truth is another. The two, for the most part, are linked, but not necessarily. The Constitutional Court has now pointed to the limits, stemming from the Constitution, of the possibilities of a penal calling to account. However, this decision does not mean that we must also renounce a disclosure of the truth.

I wish to avail myself of my constitutional right to turn to the legislature with a proposal. The time for this has already come. I do not wish to preempt the events. However, I would like to inform my fellow countrymen that when I make a proposal to the National Assembly, I am guided by two principles. One is that every people has the right to be acquainted with its own history. The other is that the ruling out of a penal calling to account does not mean that the state might not have the duty, by all available constitutional means, to disclose the history forming events of the past decades.

This cannot be left solely to the science of history, whose tools are finite. The state must actively collaborate so that the truth should be disclosed and so that the culprits are named.

Therefore, when I subject myself to the decision of the Constitutional Court, this does not mean at the same time that I am not seeking, while fully respecting the body's decision, the constitutional modes for revealing and closing the past that are not linked to a penal calling to account.

Federal Assembly Deputies React

LD0403204992 Budapest MTI in English 1411 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] Budapest, March 4 (MTI)—Wednesday's Hungarian papers cover in detail the Tuesday ruling of the Constitutional Court, declaring that the "law on the prosecutability of serious crimes committed between December 21, 1944 and May 2, 1990, and left unpunished for political reasons" was unconstitutional. The law was passed by parliament on November 4, 1991, but never put into force.

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On November 18, President Goncz asked the Constitutional Court to examine the law to see if it complied with the Constitution. Under the law, those who committed murder, treason and assault but were left unpunished in [illegible] would have been brought to trial, and the statutes of limitations for these crimes would have been prolonged. The bill was submitted to parliament by Zsolt Zetenyi and Peter Takacs of the Hungarian Democratic Forum.

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As reported earlier, President Goncz commented on the ruling as follows: "The Constitutional Court's ruling is irrevocable and binding to everyone, including members of parliament. I accept the decision and act in keeping with the Constitution. The Constitutional Court has now pointed to the constitutional limits of prosecution. This ruling, however, does not mean that we should give up exploring the truth." The president indicated that, beside returning the law to parliament, he would come up with an initiative in the National Assembly.

According to "MAGYAR HIRLAP", Goncz will propose that if the culprits cannot be brought to trial, they should at least be named by a six-party parliamentary committee or a body composed of highly respected personalities.

"Observers say that the ruling is of historical significance and may provide an example for Eastern Europe," the paper says.

"Although the Constitutional Court made an acceptable and correct ruling, it chose the easier solution," Zetenyi told "MAGYAR HIRLAP". In his view, major offences

should always entail consequences. The ruling, he said, suggests that proceedings may be launched even in the absence of a law. The charge must be laid and it will be up to the court to decide whether the statute of limitations is still in effect.

Gabor Fodor, a member of the National Board of the Federation of Young Democrats, welcomed the ruling as a victory for the rule of law.

Zoltan Gal, head of the Hungarian Socialist Party's parliamentary group, said, "we were pleased to see the constitutional system functioning...we are aware that the decision has not yet put an end to the affair. Although the errors of the past regime cannot be eliminated by means of criminal law, we would like to come forward with a proposal for setting up an independent and duly authorized committee of historians to explore the events and crimes of the past decades."

"NEPSZABADSAG" quotes Imre Konya, head of the parliamentary group of the Hungarian Democratic Forum, as saying, "when a dictatorial regime is replaced by a state governed by the rule of law, efforts of a limited nature should be made to remedy the injustices committed by the dictatorship. Of course, the Constitutional Court's decision is binding on all, but it does not rule out that we might look for legal solutions that are able to enforce historical justice and restore moral order."

Goncz Appoints New TV, Radio Vice Presidents

LD0303171192 Budapest MTI in English 1619 GMT 2 Mar 92

[Text] Budapest, March 2 (MTI)—Dr Laszlo Csucs and Dr Gabor Nahlik were sworn in as vice-presidents of the radio and television today. The vice-presidents' appointment were made by President Arpad Goncz at the prime minister's proposal. Goncz said he hopes the new vice-presidents' activity in the tense home political situation will help increase the standard of the national media which are expected to serve the Hungarian people as a whole.

Vice President on Financial Problems

LD0303152592 Budapest MTV Television Network in Hungarian 0630 GMT 3 Mar 92

[Text] The new vice presidents of radio and television took their oath of office today. After intensive talks on the financial and organizational situation at Hungarian television, Gabor Nahlik said that he also took action as well.

[Begin recording] [Nahlik] In the days to come, we will devote our efforts to a solution to the financial crisis. It has become obvious that the one billion forints of budget support, now being held back, will not be enough for the financial rehabilitation of this accumulated debt, in view of the expected returns and expenditures.

[Reporter] What does crisis management mean in this case?

[Nahlik] Crisis management means that we must maintain our ability to function. That is to say, quite soon we will take essential rationalization measures to restrict the outflow of money to some extent, naturally without letting the viewers notice. In such a rapid rationalization operation, we have to consider what activities are being done in parallel, and what work is being duplicated. Measures can be taken very quickly in such cases. We must ensure that Hungarian television continues to be served by talented staff. [end recording]

Janos Palotas Asked To Leave Democratic Forum

LD0403193392 Budapest MTI in English 0959 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] Budapest, March 4 (MTI)—The parliamentary group of the ruling coalition party Hungarian Democratic Forum [HDF] asked MP [member of parliament] Janos Palotas to leave the faction. The decision was passed at the group's Tuesday evening meeting with a decisive majority of votes. Palotas, president of the National Association of Entrepreneurs and a top figure in popularity polls, made his way into parliament with the support, but not as a member, of the HDF. His views on several economic matters have differred from the party's.

Explaining the "break" to Wednesday's "NEPSZABADSAG", Palotas says he thought the law on putting a ceiling on pension increases as unconstitutional in parliament on Tuesday. He also criticized the constitutional and legislation committee for failing to give MPs the opportunity to examine government proposals for compliance with the constitution. "It may also have irritated the faction that I quoted the already-proven unconstitutionality of the Zetenyi-Takacs law in my speech before parliament," Palotas says.

The constitutional court yesterday ruled that the HDF-supported Zetenyi-Takacs law on limitations contradicts the constitution both as a whole and in its details.

Iliescu Calls for Common Strategy in Transition

AU0303201892 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1721 GMT 3 Mar 92

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 3/3/1992—"Mine is a retirement age," said Romania's president, Ion Iliescu, at a ceremony celebrating his 62nd anniversary, attended by parliamentarians, members of the executive, political personalities, men of culture, journalists, representatives of the diplomatic corps, citizens willing to congratulate him. "I am still thinking if it is time for me to step down or not. Many people advise me to do so, and I can tell them I am still thinking." (e.n. [editor's note], Romania is going to have presidential elections in a few months time)

Referring to economic and social issues Romania has to cope with, President Iliescu said: "Irrespective of the personal fate of each of us, we are all in the same boat, our lives are linked to this difficult period Romania is passing through. I think that beyond controversies, political disputes, characteristic of any democratic development, and particularly of a period of convulsions such as the one Romania is crossing today, we must be, all of us, strong enough to go beyond party controversies, to find elements that are part of the vein of the national interest, and bring together all the creative capacities of the country, to find solutions together to shorten this period of major difficulties for most citizens of Romania, to re-normalize the general political and social climate, and especially the state of the national economy, to ensure an economic growth, a technological development in step with that proper to the contemporary world.

We all have various kinds of disputes: Some of us are considered to favour the reform, some others to oppose it. That manner of grouping people in unreal and artificial categories is a manner of creating dissensions, as, irrespective of subjective wishes, the country has one major interest, there is only one major process, and the way in which the reform is achieved is dependent on an option and a decision taken by those in charge with that. In fact we are living an irreversible change, in political, economic and social terms. The whole problem is how to optimize the process. It is conditioned, in fact, by objective factors, by inner possibilities and conditions, and by the international context.

The market economy has not only advantages. It is also a process of differentiation on a national and international plane, and of deepening discrepancies. Unfortunately, we are placed now at the periphery of contemporary development, in the underdeveloped world, and such phenomena are very frequent. That is why we have to approach things jointly and have a common strategy, to ensure the transition, and to find out what it should consist of, in point of national interests, and in what an optimum position in the world is concerned. I think that such a matter of a major national, strategic character must group together all the creative capacities of our people. And I think that we have at least the advantage of having people of high capacities and qualifications working in this country."

Says Elections Show 'Maturity'

AU0403195992 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1928 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 4/3/1992—In an interview with the Romanian Television on Tuesday, March 3, Romania's President Ion Iliescu appreciated that both the election campaign and the very elections "were held in a civilised climate and show a certain maturity of the Romanian society, of the electorate." The Romanian head of state underscored "the special significance of those elections" which "practically conclude a cycle of the political evolution of the Romanian society," they being "the first concretisation of constitutional principles as concerns the building of the basic elements of the democratic structures of our society, of local institutions." The local elections—President Ion Iliescu appreciated—represent "a major moment in establishing the structures of the state of law, of the democratic state."

President Iliescu opines that "there have been no serious elements to support the contestation of the elections validity" and makes reference to the "change of the electorate, of the structures of the Romanian society, of its political structure" which is determined by "the difficulties confronting the Romanian society." The governmental party in crisis moments has always been subject to a diminished popularity, Ion Iliescu said. He opines that Romania will see a normal evolution of the political life in the sense of establishing "several major lines and representative political formations which should mirror the general orientations and general options."

In Romanian president's opinion the absenteeism in the local elections "expresses a state of the population's insatisfaction at the economic situation, therefore a certain insatisfaction at those whom they voted." The Romanian head of state considers that "the electorate did not estrange from those whom they had voted in 1990, the transfers of votes are not decisive in comparison with the very great absenteeism determined by the insatisfaction at those they had voted in 1990."

The president expresses his conviction that, besides the differences among the parties, there are "points of contact that could form national platforms of common interest for all political formations to find collaboration possibilities to get out of these difficult moments." Among them President Iliescu makes reference to "the elaboration of a national strategy concerning the development of the national economy apt to find out the ways for surmounting the crisis moments, the setting up of the fundamental legislative and institutional elements and of the market economy, the problems concerning the defence of the country, its security, the defence of national interests on international plane, the use of human potential, a.o.

Political Leaders Discuss Election Results

AU0403141192 Bucharest TINERETUL LIBER in Romanian 26 Feb 92 pp 1, 2

[Statements made by party leaders to reporters Doina Diaconu, Ioan Lascu, Mircea Florin Sandru, and Emilia Vasiliu; place and date not given: "Party Leaders Comment Local Elections"]

[Text] [Radu Campeanu, president of the National Liberal Party, PNL] At the time of this conversation, we are not yet in possession of all the results. We know that we registered a total victory in Bucharest, which is a very good thing, but we are waiting for all the results to come in to have a complete picture of the second ballot. According to information received so far, the candidates of the Democratic Convention [CD] have won in the majority of towns, whether large or small towns. I believe that the CD representatives have scored good results—better results than in the first round—in the villages, too. The significance of this electoral picture is, in my opinion, quite important, as it definitely marks an older trend: The Romanian electorate and public are moving away from the National Salvation Front [FSN] and looking for other orientations, particularly looking to the opposition parties. However, I cannot say that the separation from the FSN has invariably led to a move toward the opposition parties. But this is the trend that was clearly perceived at the communal elections. These are the first free communal elections in 54 years, hence they are of historic importance. Second, I believe that it is the first time after the establishment of the communist system in Romania that the administration has ceased to be 100 percent communist. Communists, cryptocommunists, neocommunists, or whatever you may call them, still remain in the local administrative structures, but it is very important that people with a different mentality are penetrating these areas. This will lead to a sure change in the relationship between the administrators and administered people, in the observance of the rights of the administered people, in the struggle against corruption, and in guaranteeing the state of law. Likewise, I believe that the penetration of democratic elements in the public administration will also mark a beginning of guarantees for the future administrative elections.

[Petre Roman, national leader of the FSN] As far as figures are concerned, there are three results, each one with its significance. First, there is the proper result of the number of elected mayors. FSN preponderance in this regard is very large. More than 55 percent of the elected mayors belong to the FSN; also significant is the fact that many of the elected mayors are independent candidates, who come before the representatives of other political groupings, such as the CD. Therefore, this segment of independent candidates, without a political label, has come in second in the elections. The second important result is what we call the political vote, that is, the vote for the lists of councillors. In the practice of advanced democracies, the vote for these lists has a certain political significance. As you know, the FSN obtained here some 41 percent, followed in second place by the CD—an alliance of eight or 14 parties—with 21 percent. Finally, there is a third result, which pertains to the number of voters. Here, the FSN obtained something more than 33 percent and the CD something more than 24 percent. However, this vote has no political significance because those who voted for independent candidates represent an important bulk of the electorate and can change the aspect of the political vote; on the other hand, the general elections—where the party programs are voted on—have dynamics other than the local elections and this also applies to the number of voters. Therefore, between these two extremes—more than 55 percent and something over 33 percent, the political significance is given by the 41 percent to 21 percent ratio, which gives us justified reason to believe that the Front can win the general elections.

[Ana Blandiana, president of the Civic Alliance, AC] In my opinion, and in the opinion of the AC, these elections have primarily proved what we maintained at our appearance on the political scene, namely that "We can only succeed together!" It is obvious that the fact that the CD and the union have actually functioned is the main reason for the victory of the opposition parties. I do not want to comment on these results. It is obvious that if as many observers had been present in the provinces as in Bucharest, the results in the rest of the country would have looked more like those in Bucharest. If the independent press had been able to reach there, too and be as widely read as in Bucharest, the results of the CD in the rest of the country would have been similar to those in Bucharest. However, for all these things to be really relevant, they have to be proven again at the coming elections. What I mean is that the local elections were only a general rehearsal of the opposition's unity, which must also function in the legislative elections.

[Ion Diaconescu, first vice president of the National Peasant Christian Democratic Party, PNTCD] I think that the second ballot of the local elections confirmed to a large extent the results of the first poll. The CD was successful particularly in the country's large cities and had less favorable results in the villages. This is encouraging and makes us feel content about these elections, knowing that all innovative ideas and all good solutions start out from the politically more informed and knowledgeable circles.

Of course, one could further speculate on the parties within the Convention that made the most important contribution to this success. However, it is hard to assess such a thing, and not very wise.

We are optimistic about next spring's elections—the legislative and presidential ones—because the local election results may work as an inducement for those who were still hesitant and dominated by fear or discouragement. A beginning was made, and all the people realized that the domestic political climate can be changed through elections.

[Mr. Radu Ceontea, president of the Romanian National Unity Party, PUNR] Looking at things now, after the dice were cast, allow me to state a personal opinion. Maybe we would have gathered more laurels had we participated in a "kolkhoz" of parties, on either side of the spectrum. However, we took the luxury of going into an alliance only with our own sympathizers and members. We are not dissatisfied with the results, because we were not looking for spectacular things. We want to remain a political grouping in search of small successes in the long run, rather than big successes in the short term. This means that we want to become a successful party through its own efforts. When I say that, I am particularly referring to our sympathizers and members. We have obtained the anticipated results. We are not disappointed, because we did not want a lot; however, we are not all that happy either, because Lady Luck did not smile on us. Anyhow, for the time being, until all results are in, we are glad that we won 10 percent of the mayoral positions in the county seats.

[Mr. Attila Verestoy, senator of the Democratic Union of Hungarians in Romania, UDMR] I consider the results natural, because, as we all wanted after December 1989, pluralism was bound to eventually emerge in this country. The local elections represent a step forward in this respect. This seems to me the major lesson of the local elections, which showed that the emergence of political parties is not synonymous with a mere statement of intent. Their existence is effective and desirable only to the extent that they can put together a coherent and convincing program, which is then endorsed by the electorate. This is what happened during the 9 and 23 February ballots. One can say that we have taken a major step along the road toward a civil society. I consider that the UDMR has attained and even exceeded its proposed targets. It has convincingly shown to a sizable part of Romanian society that it is and must be a constructive element in the Romanian society and that it can and must be an active partner in the administration of common assets.

New FSN Group Makes Statement On Aims

AU0403125192 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0857 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 4/3/1992—The group called A Future for Romania, set up inside the National Salvation Front [FSN] "considers that this political formation has to make decisions of capital importance not only for itself, but also for the country", reads a statement presented on March 3 to a news conference by Vasile Secares, member of the FSN steering board.

Considering that the current moment is "the climax of the FSN's crisis," the statement shows that after the March 1991 national convention of that party "the discrepancy between the FSN's political program and the concrete activity of governing has grown deeper".

According to the statement, "the crisis facing the FSN is a political one. So, it has to be settled by political means. Therefore, the group A Future for Romania considers that the time left until the national convention due this March has to be used for the settlement of all aspects of this crisis." The authors of the statement appeal for "a platform that should give consistency, coherence and accuracy to the FSN's program option".

On the same occasion, Vasile Secares mentioned that the group A Future for Romania thinks of itself rather as a movement of ideas, emerged out of the need to "relaunch a propaganda debate inside the FSN," that should finally produce concrete solutions for the current crisis.

Environment Minister To Run for President

AU0403174592 Bucharest ROMANIA LIBERA in Romanian 27 Feb 92 p 3

[C.V. signed note: "A New Candidate for Presidency"]

[Text] Mr. Marcian Bleahu, environment minister and senator of the Ecological Movement of Romania, affirmed that he will run for the position of president of Romania in the upcoming general elections. The statement was made during the conference of the National Foundation of Scientific Trips and Expeditions, which was held on 23 February in the town of Sfintu Gheorghe, and the ARPRESS reporter has learned the above from one of the participants in the conference.

International

Mitrovic, Vance Agree on Rapid UN Deployment

LD0403193892 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1907 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] Belgrade, March 4 (TANJUG)—Yugoslav Deputy Prime Minister Aleksandar Mitrovic and the U.N. secretary general's personal envoy for Yugoslavia, Cyrus Vance, agreed on Wednesday that everything must be done for the U.N. peacekeeping forces to be sent to Yugoslavia as soon as possible.

Vance informed Mitrovic, who is deputy president of the Yugoslav State Committee for Cooperation With U.N. Representatives, about the planned pace of the blue helmets' arrival, a statement issued after the talks in Belgrade said.

The U.N. envoy thanked the state leadership of Yugoslavia for its efforts to 'materially and in every other way facilitate the United Nations' implementation of the peace operation in Yugoslavia,' the statement said.

The Yugoslav State Committee for Cooperation With the U.N. offered the blue helmets free accommodation in Yugoslav Army barracks in the regions where they will be deployed and fuel supplies at favourable prices.

On arrival in Belgrade this afternoon, Vance said the situation in the multi-national republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina, where intermittent ethnic clashes are in their fourth day today, would not postpone the arrival of blue helmets in Yugoslavia.

According to Vance, the developments in Bosnia-Hercegovina have not brought into question the locating of the main staff of the peacekeeping forces in the capital of the republic, Sarajevo.

Vance said he was to meet today with President of the Republic of Serbia Slobodan Milosevic and Acting Federal Defence Secretary General Blagoje Adzic, and leave for Sarajevo on Thursday.

Vance Meets Milosevic

LD0403231692 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2241 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] Belgrade, 4 Mar (TANJUG)—It is perfectly clear now that there are absolutely no obstacles to the continuation of the entire UN peace operation. Therefore, peace is secured in that respect, and this is the most important issue for all those in Yugoslavia who mean well.

Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic said this in Belgrade this evening after several hours of talks with the UN secretary general's personal envoy, Cyrus Vance, who arrived in Yugoslavia this afternoon for his sixth mission. Slobodan Milosevic assessed this evening's talks with Vance as "very open and constructive."

Cyrus Vance, who expressed optimism in connection with the UN peace operation in Yugoslavia, expressed a similar opinion in a somewhat shorter statement. He strengthened his optimism by belief that people in Yugoslavia will realize that the UN peace operation is in everybody's interest.

As it was expected, at this evening's talks Vance and Milosevic also exchanged opinions on the situation in Bosnia-Hercegovina. The UN secretary general's personal envoy said that the situation there deeply worries everyone. He indicated that he will go to Sarajevo tomorrow afternoon, and that he will hold talks not only with Presidency President Alija Izetbegovic, but also with the leaders of the Serbian and Croatian communities. As he said, "we still are trying to do everything that is important for the peace operation."

According to Cyrus Vance, the peace operation will continue regardless of the situation in Bosnia-Hercegovina, and he thought that the leaders in Bosnia-Hercegovina would understand that the present situation is critical for them, as well as for "all of us."

Jovic To Meet With UN Officials

LD0503122592 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0131 GMT 5 Mar 92

[Text] New York, 5 Mar (TANJUG)—"The aim of our visit is to take an active part in the final stages of the preparations for the UN peace activity in Yugoslavia. To this end we will establish contacts and hold talks with top UN representatives and especially with all the officials directly involved with the UNPROFOR [UN Protection Force] whose deployment in Yugoslavia is hoped for as soon as possible."

This is how Borisav Jovic, member of the Yugoslav Presidency, explained the aim of his visit to the United States and to the United Nations upon his arrival in New York. Jovic is in New York in his capacity as chairman of the State Committee for Cooperation with the United Nations and is accomapnied by Branko Lukovac, an under secretary in the Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs.

Dr. Jovic is expected to hold talks today with Marrack Goulding, UN under secretary in charge of the peace operations department; with the UNPROFOR military commander, Indian General Satish Nambiar; with the head of the UNPROFOR civilian section, Thornberry; and with other relevant officials.

According to Jovic, it is necessary to speed up the process of sending the peace forces to Yugoslavia but prior to this all issues which could lead to misunderstandings between the blue helmets and their Yugoslav hosts must be clarified. Although all sides in the Yugoslav conflict have fully accepted the UN plan, which provides the basis for the resolution to embark on the peace action, there is a danger that some of the points in the plan might be open to different interpretations. It would therefore be best to

eliminate all potential for disagreement at the present stage in the final preparations, Jovic said.

In view of the events in Bosnia-Hercegovina, where the situation deteriorated suddenly in the past few days, certain points have to be clarified, especially in light of the UN Security Council's decision to locate the UNPROFOR headquarters in Sarajevo. Dr. Jovic will discuss this issue with the ambassadors of the "Big Five" from the Security Council as well as with the UN Security Council President, Venezuela's Ambassador Diego Arria.

Interrepublic

Macedonian, Serbian Delegations Hold Talks

AU0403150592 Skopje Radio Macedonia Network in Macedonian 2100 GMT 3 Mar 92

[Text] The Macedonian and Serbian Government delegations, led by Premiers Dr. Nikola Kljusev and Radoman Bozovic respectively, met in Belgrade today. The two sides discussed a number of issues of mutual interest: economic relations, the settling of mutual liabilities, the methods of exchanging goods and services, and the current protectionist measures between the two republics.

The largest part of the talks was devoted to the joint monetary policy and the possible monetary independence of Macedonia. After the three and a half hours of talks, the two premiers held a news conference at which they presented their views on the results of the meeting.

According to Premier Kljusev, this meeting was useful and has opened up opportunities for specific agreements and the development of economic cooperation between Macedonia and Serbia. He stressed that the Serbian delegation insisted that the Macedonian Government clearly state the date by which Macedonia wants to leave the monetary system of the remaining Yugoslavia.

The Macedonian Government rejected pressure and ultimatums as methods of cooperation. Premier Kljusev stressed several times that Macedonia is still part of the monetary system and that it is not undermining it with anything. It does not intend to leave the system at present. If it decides to introduce its own currency it will inform all its business partners about it in time, including Serbia.

As for the other side, Serbian Premier Radoman Bozovic told reporters that during these talks Serbia demanded that the rules of the game be clearly defined. According to Bozovic, it should be decided whether the two sides want to have a common market and a monetary-payment area, or whether they want to apply the rules of two different states. According to him, bilateral relations between Serbia and Macedonia will depend on these rules. He used these arguments to explain the pressure the Serbian Government has been exerting on the National Bank of Yugoslavia, the Federal Executive Council, and the Assembly so that the joint economic space, in which there would be a free flow of capital, goods, and services, would be defined within a certain period of time .

The two sides expressed the identical view that the interests [words indistinct] cooperation between Macedonia and Serbia. Serbia proceeded from its own commitment to the continuation of Yugoslavia, while Macedonia from its commitment to an independent and sovereign state. In view of these differences, (?the two sides stressed) that solutions to various issues should be found in the way they suit bilateral relations. Similar answers were given in response to a reporter's question concerning the border between Macedonia and Serbia, and the blockade of goods that are in short supply.

Premier Kljusev said that Macedonia is against any kind of borders and barriers, stressing that the economic interests among business partners should be determined [words indistinct] mutual cooperation. Radoman Bozovic, on the other hand, said that the blockade of the border between the two republics was a forced measure designed to protect the Serbian economy and citizens from uncontrolled outflow of foodstuffs and agricultural products to other parts of Yugoslavia.

In addition to economic issues, reporters were also interested in several aspects of politics. The two sides agreed to set up a joint inter-governmental expert commission to resolve all these issues. The two premiers stressed that such meetings should be held more frequently, expressing the hope that they will be both constructive and mutually beneficial.

Federal

Bank Governor Questions Macedonian Currency

LD2902222492 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1558 GMT 28 Feb 92

[Text] Belgrade, Feb 28 (TANJUG)—The Council of Governors of the Central Yugoslav Bank has asked the Macedonian republican authorities to reply within eight days (or fifteen if a decision of the Macedonian assembly is required) if and when they intend to issue their own currency, bank governor Dusan Vlatkovic told the press today.

The same question will be addressed to other republics which have also indicated such steps, Vlatkovic added.

The breakaway Yugoslav Republics of Slovenia and Croatia have already introduced their own currencies, while there have also been unconfirmed statements along the same line from Bosnia-Hercegovina.

Governor Vlatkovic said that protective measures will be taken if there is no answer within the set deadline.

According to general director of the bank's department of control Ljubo Perisic, this means that the bank would stop all credits to Macedonia, primary issue on any basis, the sale of foreign currency to authorized Macedonian

banks on the foreign currency market, and the further supply of cash to the Macedonian National Bank.

Macedonia asked for international recognition last December, but so far it has come only from Bulgaria and Turkey. Within the European Community (E.C.), recognition of Macedonia is opposed by Greece which demands that Macedonia change its name. Greece says that this name indicates territorial claims towards the Greek region of Makedhonia.

Macedonia has already withdrawn its personnel from the Yugoslav federal organs and the Army. An agreement with the Yugoslav People's Army on its withdrawal from Macedonian territory has also been reached.

Bosnia-Hercegovina

Izetbegovic Addresses Citizens To Combat Rumors

LD0403184592 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1726 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] Sarajevo, 4 Mar (TANJUG)—In today's "Novosti" program on Sarajevo Television Alija Izetbegovic, president of the Presidency of Bosnia-Hercegovina, appealed to all the inhabitants of Sarajevo and other towns in the republic to feel free to go out for a walk with their families and to take advantage of a nice afternoon in the town. This was in response to the rumors spread in the town today which forced many people to leave their workplaces earlier than usual, and pupils to leave schools early.

He called these rumors a special war against Bosnia-Hercegovina, and appealed to the inhabitants of the republic not to give in to such methods, but to contribute to easing and defusing the situation with calm actions.

Izetbegovic said that the situation in the town is under control. He said that the joint patrols of the Yugoslav People's Army and the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Bosnia-Hercegovina represent a solution that has made the greatest contribution to calming the situation at this moment, although they are not the best solution. Permanent solutions will be sought, Izetbegovic said, and stressed that these patrols are under civilian control, and that the presence of soldiers is aimed at increasing the confidence of a part of citizens, since the police do not enjoy complete trust at this moment. The patrols have gained the general trust of everybody.

Izetbegovic said that there have not been any talks between the ruling parties today, but they discussed the resolution of problems related to last night's events, and the talks will continue on Saturday under EC auspices. The party leaders participating in the talks obtained a proposal on a statement, which they are to adopt before the meeting in Brussels, declaring that they will do everything to secure peace and that they will seek a negotiated solution.

Comments on Referendum, Unrest

PM0503111492 Paris LE FIGARO in French 4 Mar 92 p 3

[Interview with Bosnia-Hercegovina President Alija Izetbegovic by Philippe Gelie in Sarajevo on 4 March]

[Text] [Gelie] What concessions did you make to ease tension and secure the removal of the barricades?

[Izetbegovic] We did not have to make any.

[Gelie] After 24 hours of extreme tension, did the situation miraculously return to normal?

[Izetbegovic] No. It was just that the organizers of the barricades realized that they could not continue. We negotiated with the Serbian representatives; but if you compare their demand with the terms of the final agreement, you will see that we have not made any major concessions.

[Gelie] Did the pacifist demonstrators who braved the machineguns in the evening the day before yesterday help restore a calm situation?

[Izetbegovic] Yes, those spontaneous demonstrations played a very important role. I now know an infallible recipe for avoiding new violence: I will call on the people to take to the street as they did on Monday evening.

[Gelie] Are you afraid that the whole of Bosnia-Hercegovina will be plunged into civil war?

[Izetbegovic] We came close to disaster and I was very worried. But a year ago the situation was extremely tense. I think that civil war is out of the question, it is a risk which belongs to the past. Following the Croatian experience, nobody will dare to do the same here. The extremist elements do not have enough weight to launch a war.

[Gelie] When hundreds of armed men are spread throughout the city, surely it just takes one spark to ignite them?

[Izetbegovic] You are oversimplifying the situation. The real situation is different. We are halfway between war and peace, in a kind of cold war which will last a little longer. There is a balance of fear here, and I think that for the time being fear is useful to peace. Ultimately, I hope that we will be able to replace it with confidence. Bosnia-Hercegovina has time on its side.

[Gelie] In your view, was this explosion of violence manipulated by Belgrade?

[Izetbegovic] Yes, to some extent. All the indications are that at first the deployment on the barricades was coordinated. But subsequently, more reasonable elements in Sarajevo took control....

[Gelie] ....and the Serbian Democratic Party [SDS] scored a valuable point for the negotiations by showing its strength in the field.

[Izerbegovic] That was all a kind of general training. But the SDS has been discredited in the population. It has not achieved anything. Quite the reverse: The entire Bosnian people is stronger and more united than before against the extremists.

[Gelie] Will you take advantage of this loss of credibility to organize early parliamentary elections?

[Izetbegovic] In view of the new situation created by the referendum on independence, elections strike me as desirable. The decision rests with parliament, but I will propose that they are held next November.

[Gelie] Are you satisfied with the results obtained in the referendum?

[Izetbegovic] Very satisfied. Participation is close to two thirds, which corresponds to our best forecasts.

[Gelie] The Serbs boycotted the vote and ethnic divisions were not destroyed....

[Izetbegovic] No. The analyses show that a large number of Serbs participated in the referendum.

[Gelie] Why negotiate with the SDS which regards the popular vote as illegal?

[Izetbegovic] The referendum does not prejudge the republic's future organization. It relates to its independence and sovereignty: On this point, there can no longer be any concessions.

[Gelie] You are opposed to the partition of Bosnia-Hercegovina along ethnic lines, whereas the SDS is in favor of that. What is the compromise?

[Izetbegovic] There are different opinions and that is natural. We will find a solution by dint of concessions.... We must define the republic's internal organization. Partition along ethnic lines is rejected by the majority of the people and by the entire intelligentsia. I think that economic and geographical criteria, taking account of the circulation of goods and possessions, must form the basis of our discussions.

[Gelie] Do you think that Europe will regard the referendum as sufficient to give Bosnia international recognition?

[Izetbegovic] Yes, that was the last precondition put forward by the Badinter commission.

[Izetbegovic] That commission also demanded complete control over the republic's territory. Does this really exist?

[Izetbegovic] The referendum rightly showed that the government controls the entire territory: Just two out of 109 constitutencies opposed the electoral process.

[Gelie] How will you react if the Krajina Serbs secede?

[Izetbegovic] For the time being, that is purely hypothetical. And we only recognize this region's legal authorities.

[Gelie] Are you conducting negotiations with the federal army to secure its departure from Bosnia or at least its neutrality?

[Izetbegovic] We have regular contacts. General Kukanjac (Federal Army chief of staff in Sarajevo—LE FIGARO editor's note) attended the meeting of the crisis cell on Monday. He adopted a very constructuive attitude, insisting that the SDS remove the barricades. Before that, he had published a circular authorizing soldiers to vote.

Ultimately the Federal Army has two possible solutions: It can leave or turn into a Bosnian army. This process will take at least two years. But the army already accepts the new situation here.

[Gelie] Do you think that Serbia will also accept it?

[Izetbegovic] I think so. I have not recently spoken with President Milosevic but for the past six months his position has been moving in the right direction.

[Gelie] Will the forthcoming arrival of the blue helmets ease the tension here?

[Izetbegovic] It is a very positive point which will have a beneficial psychological influence. It will calm people down.

Army Commander Kukanjac Denies Coup Rumors

LD0503115792 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1041 GMT 5 Mar 92

[Excerpts] Sarajevo, March 5 (TANJUG)—The situation in the Yugoslav Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina is less tense today and life is returning to normal. [passage omitted]

General Milutin Kukanjac, the commander of the army district covering Bosnia-Hercegovina, in last night's interview to Sarajevo television denied rumours of a military coup in the republic. He underscored that peace is also a condition for normal army activities. Kukanjac called for more active engagement of the civilian authorities to prevent disruptions of the normal activities in some army barracks, such as Visoko. Numerous citizens of Sarajevo yesterday evening responded to a call by President Alija Izetbegovic to follow his example and take a walk in the streets. Similar peace efforts were held in many towns in Bosnia-Hercegovina, and a big peace rally will be held in downtown Sarajevo today. The lowering of tensions was achieved also due to the continuation of political talks in the republic's internal organization and the announced arrival today afternoon of U.N. secretary-general's special envoy Cyrus Vance.

Vance said in Belgrade yesterday that the events in Bosnia-Hercegovina will not postpone the arrival of the U.N. peace force in Yugoslavia and that the

UNPROFOR [UN Protection Force] headquarters will be located in the Bosnia-Hercegovina capital.

Army Stresses 'Constructive' Conduct

LD0403174492 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1628 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] Sarajevo, 4 Mar (TANJUG)—Over the past two days the political and security situation in Sarajevo and Bosnia-Hercegovina has rapidly deteriorated, particularly as regards relations between Muslims and Serbs, according to a public statement released today by the Information Service of the 2d Military District Command.

Despite the fact that the leadership of Bosnia-Hercegovina and the leaders of political parties have publicly paid tribute to and shown support for the Yugoslav Peoples' Army, we are nevertheless witnessing a continuing campaign of defamations and insinuations in the media, alleging that members of the Serbian people are arming themselves, that vehicles of the Ministry for Internal Affairs have been destroyed in Visoko, and that the army has sided with the Serbian people. There are evidently certain forces in Bosnia-Hercegovina who do not favor a peaceful outcome of the crisis in the republic. This is why they are trying their best to portray in the public eye the army's role as it suits them in order to reach their basest goal—civil war on Bosnia-Hercegovina's soil.

The statement goes on to say that the army's constructive and unbiased conduct in seeking a peaceful solution to the current crisis has also been manifestly demonstrated in the highly intensive activities of the 2d Military District Commander, Colonel General Milan Kukanjac, over the past 48 hours. He has taken part in the work of both of the Bosnia-Hercegovina Presidency's extended sessions. He is the only one among the top members of the republic's authorities who has toured all the barricades in Sarajevo and its surrounds, and he also initiated yesterday's meeting between Alija Izetbegovic and Radovan Karadzic and their closest aides, at which his proposal was unanimously accepted that joint patrols, manned by the organs of the Ministry for Internal Affairs and the military police, should be set up. It was these patrols that made the removal of the barricades possible. He was the only one among the participants in last night's agreement who toured the streets of Sarajevo and its outskirts together with one of the joint patrols.

This all confirms, the statement says in conclusion, that in its essence the Army has been and still is a people's army and that it is doing its best to secure peace for the citizens of Bosnia-Hercegovina.

Banja Luka JNA Commander on Cease-Fire

LD0403153592 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1333 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Excerpts] Banja Luka, 4 Mar (TANJUG)—The events in Sarajevo are a threat to the arrival of the UN forces in Yugoslavia. If the conflict were to expand, and lack of security intensified, their arrival could be delayed. This is why we have to do everything to preserve peace. This was stated today by Lieutenant Colonel General Vladimir Vukovic, the officer commanding the Banja Luka Corps, during his conversation with journalists of the Banja Luka GLAS. [passage omitted]

This cease-fire and the peace to which we aspire is not to the liking of and is not a reflection of the actual mood of the Croatian Government, and the Croatian army is trying to infiltrate sabotage groups and perpetrate daily provocations to destabilize the Banja Luka Corps defenses, and also to transfer the conflict on to Bosnian territory. General Vukovic stressed in particular good cooperation with UN liaison officers, emphasizing that in his contacts with them he was persuaded of their good intentions, neutrality, and wish to help. In addition, a change has become visible in the case of EC observers who finally, in Vukovic's view, have grasped who the aggressor is, and who the victim of aggression. [passage omitted]

General Vuckovic expressed his stance that there are no paramilitary formations in the area for which his corps is responsible, and that all similar armed groups will be disarmed—mentioning in this context that some of these groups have in fact already been disarmed. He also stressed that the Yugoslav People's Army [JNA] has no intention of withdrawing from Bosnia-Hercegovina in general, and from Bosnian Krajina in particular, because this is the stance of both the SFRY Presidency, the Supreme Command Headquarters, and of the people of Bosnian Krajina, too—with whom excellent cooperation has been established, where it enjoys a good reputation, and where no one is asking it to go. The JNA here is truly a people's army. It will remain so regardless of the way the political conflicts in this Republic are resolved, General Vukovic said, in concluding his interview.

Uzice Corps Urges Capljina Blockade Removed

LD0403141792 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1309 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Excerpts] Nevesinje, 4 Mar (TANJUG)—The command of the Uzice Corps today called on Bosnia-Hercegovina and on the Capljina municipal authorities to secure the removal of the barricades surrounding the Capljina garrison "to avoid incidents and to preserve peace."

The statement issued by the command says that the blockade of the Miro Popara barracks has been going on for about 10 days. The barricades surrounding the barracks were put up by citizens of Croatian nationality.

Food supplies for the men and their replacement in some areas have been totally frustrated, the statement says adding that the situation "is giving rise to justified indignation felt by all Yugoslav People's Army [JNA] members."

The Uzice Corps and Capljina garrison commands have repeatedly been in touch with the municipal authorities

in Capljina, with appropriate ministry in the Bosnia-Hercegovina Government, and with the EC mission. [passage omitted]

The Uzice Corps command also recalls that the security services center in Mostar is in possession of details about the presence in Capljina of a considerable number of Croatian National Guard Corps [ZNG] members, of Croatian armed forces, and of ZNG military police with which the municipal authorities are unable to cope.

Joint Patrols Continue; Communes 'Normal'

AU0503085392 Belgrade Radio Beograd Network in Serbo-Croatian 0300 GMT 5 Mar 92

[Text] Mixed patrols in Sarajevo, consisting of members of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Bosnia-Hercegovina and the Yugoslav People's Army, are functioning well and have already produced results. Rail traffic between Belgrade and Sarajevo has also been reestablished after the barricades were removed last night near the village of (?Bradici), between Maglaj and Zavidovici.

The situation in the communes of Doboj and Bosanski Brod is normal. All barricades have been removed and traffic is moving on all roads. The situation in Hercegovina is relatively quiet, except in the communes of Gacko and Stolac. Muslims held a rally in Gacko because of the murder of two youths of Muslim nationality. In Stolac there are rumors about Croatian paramilitary forces being amassed in the Commune of Neum. The Command of the Uzice Corps appealed to the authorities of Bosnia-Hercegovina and the commune of Capljina to ensure that the barricades around Capljina garrison be removed if incidents are to be avoided and peace preserved. The communique issued by the command states that the citizens of Croatian nationality have blocked Miro Popara barracks and that the delivery of food to the soldiers and the replacement of soldiers at certain facilities are completely blocked. Tensions are not subsiding in northeast Bosnia. Many Serbian families are crossing the Drina to spend the night in Serbia. Rail and road traffic between Serbia and Bosnia in the communes of Loznica, Mali Zvornik, and Zvornik is functioning normally. The Serbian Democratic Party in Visegrad has appealed to the local Serb population not to contribute to the worsening of the situation with their behavior and not to erect barricades without reason.

Sarajevo Peaceful; Tension in Bosanski Brod

AU0403204692 Sarajevo Radio Sarajevo Network in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Correspondent Semra Duranovic report]

[Excerpt] I am reporting from the Information Service of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Bosnia-Hercegovina, where journalists are being given details about the political and security situation. There have been no major changes to the details announced throughout the day.

The situation in Sarajevo is peaceful and under control. Tension still prevails in Bosanski Brod, however, because two barricades have been erected. The Information Service of the Ministry of Internal Affairs was informed that negotiations are being held in this town in order to stabilize the situation.

We are stressing the following out of the remaining news:

Two barricades have been removed near Ilijas and one near Visoko. Otherwise, Colonel General Milutin Kukanjac [commander of the Second Army District] and Alija Delimustafic, internal affairs minister, are still visiting parts of the Republic.

These are the reports from the Information Service of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Bosnia-Hercegovina. [passage omitted]

Assembly Warns Citizens of Disinformation

LD0403191792 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1752 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] Sarajevo, 4 Mar (TANJUG)—The Bosnia-Hercegovina Assembly appealed today to all citizens and peoples of the republic not to be fooled by rumors and disinformation, and particularly not to heed those inciting conflicts and civil war.

The appeal says that there is only one solution and one way out for everyone—peace, trust, mutual respect, common sense and democratic agreement.

"We are doing all we can, all of us together and each individually, to ensure this. Only in this way can we build a worthwhile life, and we have the right and duty to do so, and our children expect this of us," the appeal, signed by Assembly President Momcilo Krajisnik, Vice President Mariofil Ljubic, and presidents of the Assembly chambers, Abdulah Konjicija and Petko Cancar, stresses.

Croatian Party Assails Federal Army Actions

LD0403163792 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1419 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] Sarajevo, 4 Mar (TANJUG)—In these harsh times of war Bosnia-Hercegovina's Croatian Democratic Community [HDZ] is calling on all Bosnia-Hercegovina's peoples to retain their sanity and not to fuel in any way the red-hot political situation, the party's statement says.

The Croatian people find the script that is being enacted at the moment in Bosnia-Hercegovina very familiar, the HDZ says, following their experiences since the beginning of the war and the occupation of parts of Croatian territory.

Some of the present authorities of Bosnia-Hercegovina are trying, as a result of their indecisive and ineffective policy, to hold on to their own positions by succumbing to "the brotherly embrace of the Yugoslav soldiery

which," as the HDZ statement puts it, "is still destroying Croatian towns, killing innocent people and little children, and which has killed and destroyed all things Croatian in the village of Ravno in Bosnia-Hercegovina."

The Croatian people have decided in the referendum, together with the other peoples, that they want to live freely outside any kind of Yugoslavia and beyond any sort of patronage by the Yugoslav Peoples' Army, the only army in the world with no country of its own, the HDZ maintains.

The Bosnia-Hercegovina HDZ is appealing to all the peoples for peace and coexistence so as to enable all of us to complete the talks we have started on the future make-up of an independent, sovereign and autonomous Bosnia-Hercegovina to the satisfaction of all its people.

SDA's Ajanovic on Muslim Defense Measures

LD0403161992 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1258 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] Sarajevo, 4 Mar (TANJUG)—For its part the Party of Democratic Action [Stranka Demokratske Akcije—SDA] has been making efforts to defuse the situation in both Sarajevo and the republic and to restore peace in the region, Irfan Ajanovic, member of the SDA main committee, said at a regular news conference today.

The SDA, he said, will always be for a sovereign Bosnia-Hercegovina and for an agreement between its nations. It will however be difficult to reach an agreement for as long as Dr. Radovan Karadzic is at the head of the Serbian Democratic Party.

Asked about para-military "Green Berets," Ajanovic said that following the appearence in the streets of Sarajevo of para-military formations, other formations sprang up, some even multi-national. The Muslim nation, he said, has put its defense forces on the move. They are prepared to defend Sarajevo together with all other defense forces, both Serbian and Croat. Muslims outside Bosnia-Hercegovina and Sarajevo have offered to help including aid by air. However, the SDA is doing everything to appease these radical formations but will seek their help, if necessary.

Asked about the appearence near Sarajevo of "Arkan's and Seselj's forces" [Serb para-military leaders from western Croatia and Serbia respectively], Ajanovic said that "about 100 Chetniks from Serbia had been infiltrated into the area around Sarajevo," that the Internal Affairs Ministry had reports about them and that the SDA knows exactly where they are stationed. Ajanovic described the current events as being instigated outside Sarajevo and Bosnia- Hercegovina, stressing that "democracy will soon win in Belgrade, Beijing, and Havana."

Ajanovic sent greetings to the people of Muslim religion on their religious holiday expressing hope for peace and peaceful coexistence.

Paper Claims 50,000 'Extremists' Armed

LD0403144992 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1202 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] Belgrade, March 4 (TANJUG)—In the Yugoslav Republic Bosnia-Hercegovina (BIH) armed are some 50,000 of the most extreme members of the Croatian Democratic Union (HDZ) and the Moslem Party of Democratic Action (SDA), Belgrade daily POLITIKA says today.

The paper warns that "reliable sources" say that the extremists are "armed with automatic rifles and snipers," and that "certain party units are in possession of all types of hand and rocket launchers."

The commander of the Uzice Corps of the Yugoslav People's Army (JNA), Milan Torbica, recently announced that in western Hercegovina (which has a majority Croatian population) some 16,000 people are members of the para-military formations of the Croatian guards, the extreme pro-fascist Croatian Party of Rights (HSP) and the Croatian Liberation Force (HOS).

"The Croatian extremists are armed with rocket-launchers, various types of cannon, anti-aircraft guns and "Ambroust," "Malutka," "Osa," and "Zolja" anti-armour missiles."

According to POLITIKA, "HSP members openly advocate the creation of an independent Croatian state."

Members of HOS are "setting the borders of their Croatian motherland" between parts of Bosnia-Hercegovina inhabited by a majority Croatian population and those populated mainly by Serbs, the paper says. It states that members of HOS are reinforcing with concrete canals for trenches and throwing up barricades in regions separating western Hercegovina from areas with a majority Serb population, and are capturing and molesting Serbs living in these ares.

These "border" regions, the paper says, are spotted with graffiti saying "welcome to Croatia" and "long live Ante Pavelic" (war criminal and leader of the independent state of Croatia, a quisling fascist state created during World War Two). Following the shooting of a Serb in Sarajevo last Saturday, barricades were errected in the republic's capital and other towns and armed incidents broke out killing and wounding several people so far. Moslems make up 43.77 percent of the population in Bosnia-Hercegovina, Serbs 31.46 percent and Croats 17.34 percent. The power in the republic is divided between three national parties: SDA, Serbian Democratic Party (SDS) and HDZ.

SDS Political Council Calls for Peace

LD0403174292 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1651 GMT 3 Mar 92

[Text] Sarajevo, March 3 (TANJUG)—The Political Council of the Serbian Democratic Party (SDS) of Bosnia-Hercegovina has urged all people of good will and reason to do everything in their environments to prevent the spreading of national hatred in the republic.

In a statement released today, the SDS political council said that the killing of a set and wounding of a Serbian orthodox priest in Sarajevo two days ago were a "serious political crime and consequence of the satanization of the Serbian people."

The incident led Serbs in Sarajevo and other parts of the republic to put up barricades, which were removed last night and this morning.

The goal of the Muslim-Croatian coalition in Bosnia-Hercegovina is "to impose their domination through the independence of the state of Bosnia-Hercegovina" and reduce the Serbian people "to a national minority, a greatly threatened one at that," the statement said.

Muslims constitute 44 percent of the population in Bosnia-Hercegovina, Serbs 31 percent, and Croats 17 percent. Their national parties make up the ruling coalition.

The Muslim-Croatian coalition has sought international recognition for the republic. The Serbs are opposed to secession and want the republic to remain in Yugoslavia.

Bosnian Krajina Assembly Elects Premier

AU0403215092 Sarajevo Radio Sarajevo Network in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Report by Lazar Petrovic in Banja Luka, 4 March—recorded]

[Text] The security situation in Banja Luka and the Banja Luka region is generally satisfactory. There have been no serious disturbances of the peace, but steps were taken there today to further dismantle and disintegrate Bosnia-Hercegovina. Lazar Petrovic has a report from Banja Luka:

[Petrovic] While the railroad, highway, and telecommunications links with Sarajevo are still somehow being maintained, the state and legal links seem to be totally cut. This is confirmed by the clear and unambiguous decisions adopted at today's closed 15th session of the Assembly of the Autonomous Region of Bosnian Krajina.

According to the decisions, a security service center is due to be set up here, as well as a service to deal with payment transactions and financial supervision, a social accounting service, a national bank, and everything else. They will be directly linked to Belgrade and the corresponding federal institutions in other regions which have decided to remain in Yugoslavia. They will begin to function as soon as the announced Bosnia-Hercegovina currency appears.

For everything to be properly done, Nikola Erceg was elected president of the Executive Council. Like every premier-designate, he will soon decide on the names of government ministers. Everything is therefore clear and there is absolutely no [word indistinct] about regionalization and current issues concerning constitutional and state status. The only unclear thing is whether these state and legal tasks have ended the blockades, shooting, and barricades which this region has already experienced, or whether even greater and more serious chaos of this kind is yet to come.

The increasing appearance of graffiti on Banja Luka buildings saying Long Live Krajina and Death to Krajina, unfortunately, does not bode well.

Division Among Leaders Felt

AU2902165092 Belgrade Radio Beograd Network in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 29 Feb 92

[Branislav Bozic report from Banja Luka]

[Text] While Bosnian Krajina parliament deputies, together with the highest leadership of the Serbian Democratic Party of Bosnia-Hercegovina headed by Dr. Radovan Karadzic, are meeting in the large hall of the Banja Luka Culture Hall, a little more than 5,000 people gathered in the central city square. They have come at the call of the Serbian Democratic Party of Bosnia Krajina—as it says on a poster—to proclaim the Krajina state.

At the session discussing the position of the Bosnian Krajina in the republic of the Serbian people of Bosnia-Hercegovina there is clash of two concepts. One of them is the Krajina concept, which advocates Bosnian Krajina being proclaimed a state that would remain in Yugoslavia. The other is the option advocated by the leadership of the Serbian Democratic Party of Bosnia-Hercegovina, which Dr. Radovan Karadzic elaborated upon today. He said that it is politically unrealistic to tear Bosnia-Hercegovina apart, that he and the leadership of the Serbian Democratic Party are not going to allow the formation of counties [knezevina]. He reported on the course of the talks among the three national parties of Bosnia-Hercegovina so far and expressed his belief that this republic will never be unitarianist again and that it is going to be a confederation of the three peoples. Finally, he said that Bosnian Krajina must take into consideration the entire interest of the Serbian people. The group that advocates a Krajina state criticizes Karadzic's option as being fictitious and having no guarantees for Serbs. They say that the republic of the Serbia people of Bosnia-Hercegovina has no territory, something which is the basic attribute of a state and that after the referendum of Muslims and Croats, the introduction of Bosnia-Hercegovina's own money may follow.

The session is still under way, and one can feel a division within the leadership of Bosnian Krajina. The atmosphere among the people gathered in front the building is rather tense.

Firm Contracts Export Deal Worth $50 Million

LD0303184892 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0452 GMT 3 Mar 92

[Text] Mostar, March 3 (TANJUG)—Aluminij, an enterprise of Mostar, Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina, Central Yugoslavia, contracted export deals worth 50 million dollars in the first two months this year.

To be delivered to Pechinet, a French firm, are 20,000 tons of Aluminium and 10,000 tons of aluminium alloys and 10,000 tons of dried hydrates to Alma, an Italian firm. Also expected is a new export deal with Germany.

The Mostar enterprise produces some 92,000 tons of aluminium a year, and major quantities of various aluminium products. A newly-built drying plant for hydrates was put into operation last year. Its capacity is 28,000 tons a year. About 1.5 million dollars was invested in building and equipping it.

Croatia

Tudjman Congratulates Army on 'Victory'

LD0403225892 Zagreb HTV Television in Serbo-Croatian 1830 GMT 4 Mar 92

["Excerpt" from address by President Franjo Tudjman to meeting of senior Croatian Army officers in the Croatian Army Club in Zagreb on 4 March—recorded]

[Text] Gentlemen, officers and officials in the [Defense] Ministry and the Croatian army: Taking the platform at the end of this first big meeting of officers, that is, commanders, of the Croatian army, I primarily want to congratulate you on the victory won and on your personal contribution to this general victory which the Croatian army has won over the aggressor's forces, against the Yugoslav communist army, against Serbia and Montenegro, largely supported by men and forces of Bosnia-Hercegovina.

We have won this war. The Croatian army has won it. The Croatian army therefore deserves credit for that, together with the Croatian police. This victory contains your personal contribution, of each of you, smaller or bigger, but of each of you. However, gentlemen, we have to be aware of the fact that this war has been won by the Croatian people who, conscious and awakened, have shown such initiative and such determination that the whole world was surprised.

Since the beginning of the world, in all social changes, especially in state changes, situations such as the one we are dealing with in the creation of our army have been occurring. That means that some people with homeloving motives joined this army because of their resolution and courage, and so on, while others joined who had received military education and so on. In your own way, you must know that this is unavoidable, whatever efforts we made—individually, or as a group in our way—such a conflict, certain animosities are unavoidable [sentence as heard]. This should be dealt with extremely seriously because, since we do not know what is awaiting us on the path to the final liberation of evey foot of the Croatian territory, and since not only is the present-day Republic of Croatia in question, but as you can see the situation in Bosnia-Hercegovina is also getting complicated, and, in what way, we have indeed been interested in that issue, and we will have to be [sentence as heard]. Therefore, the problem is such, that we have to strengthen this spiritual unity, this moral and political unity of Croatia, of the Croatian army.

Unemployment Figure Reaches 400,000

LD0503095492 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0931 GMT 3 Mar 92

[Text] Zagreb, 3 Mar (TANJUG)—There are currently 400,000 unemployed persons in Croatia. Of these, 300,000 are registered with the unemployment agency and 100,000 persons are without a job because their enterprises have been destroyed by the war.

The Ministry of Employment, Social Security, and Family of the Republic of Croatia has published these figures with a comment that the social welfare conditions in this republic are very difficult.

In light of this, the Croatian ministry has sent an appeal for cooperation in the area of employment to the ministries of employment of Austria, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Finland, France, Belgium, and Canada. The appeal draws attention to "the need to reconsider the possibility of obtaining approval to employ at least 20,000 workers from Croatia in these countries"

Macedonia

Federal Third Army Command Leaving Skopje

LD0403140192 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1025 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] Skopje, 4 Mar (TANJUG)—Preparations have begun for the move of personnel and equipment of the third army area command in Skopje. This is the result of the agreement between the Federal Secretariat for National Defense and the Macedonian leadership. It has been learned that about 60 percent of the equipment in buildings in central Skopje will be moved from Macedonia.

A portion of the equipment and a certain number of officers who have signed a statement that they will remain in Macedonian Army service are being left behind. The Macedonian Army is now in the process of being formed.

In accordance with the agreement signed by Col-Gen Blagoja Adzic and Kiro Gligorov, all military hospital equipment will remain in Macedonia. Details of the future of the equipment at the Petrovac airfield near Skopje have not been divulged to the public. The only thing that is known is that it has been agreed in principle that after the Yugoslav People's Army's [JNA] departure the airfield will have all the necessary equipment required for normal civilian air traffic. The families of JNA officers who have been transferred are leaving Macedonia en masse. Unofficial rumors are circulating that the abandoned apartments have been taken over by "squatters".

Last week, the Macedonian Interior Ministry announced that JNA apartments, of which there are about 8,000, will be redistributed only after 15 April when the deadline for the JNA withdrawal from Macedonia is due to expire. According to that statement, no usurpation of the apartments lats which so far have been in JNA ownership will be allowed.

Authorities Accused of Betrayal

LD0403172292 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1353 GMT 5 Mar 92

[Text] Belgrade, March 4 (TANJUG)—The citizens of Western Macedonia, the Yugoslav Republic which requested international recognition, have charged the republican authorities, parliament and president of "having betrayed Macedonia" and "leaving 40 percent of its territory at the mercy of Albanian secessionists."

Today's Belgrade daily POLITIKA EKSPRES says that the protest was made by citizens mainly of Macedonian nationality, who are a minority in relation to Albanians in that part of the republic. Saying that both the authorities and press remained indifferent to their "cries for help and requests for protection from violence," they lodged their protest with the international court in The Hague and the Russel's Court. The Western Macedonians also criticize the highest authorities for "failing to ban the activity of Albanian nationalist parties" which strive to "expel Macedonians" and "create a greater Albania."

They accuse the authorities of "not preventing a referendum of Albanians aimed at creating autonomy on Macedonian soil"—what they were "obliged to do under the constitution."

The authorities are also blamed for permitting the Yugoslav People's Army to withdraw from the republic and leaving open the borders towards neighbouring Albania, from where Albanians come to "plunder and take away to Albania Macedonian trucks, tractors and cattle."

The protest note ends by saying that "Macedonia is dead," and that the strongest proof of the authorities' guilt is that Western Macedonia is at present "inhabited by Albanians, instead of Macedonians."

Albanians, an ethnic group with the highest birthrate in Europe, account for 21 percent of Macedonia's two million inhabitants.

Serbia

Concerned Expressed Over Sarajevo Clashes

LD0403225192 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2211 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] Belgrade, March 4 (TANJUG)—Serbia is concerned about and condemns the outburst of hatred against Serbs in the Yugoslav Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina during four days of a strong ethnic tension and clashes following an incident in Sarajevo on March 1, in which a Serb was killed and an orthodox priest wounded.

"The forces which want to provoke hatred, bloodshed and an all- out civil war between the peoples in the Republic (Bosnia- Hercegovina) are standing behind the unrest in an attempt to thwart the deployment of the UN peacekeeping troops and the creation of the conditions for a democratic solution of the Yugoslav crisis," said the Serbian Socialist Party [SPS] for Vojvodina, Serbia's northern province. The cause of the conflict in Bosnia-Hercegovina, however, lies much deeper in the disagreement of the republic's three constituent peoples—Serbs, Croats and Muslims—on the future state and legal status of Bosnia-Hercegovina.

Europe must understand that the secessionist policy in Bosnia-Hercegovina and a possible recognition of the republic's sovereignty, without the consent of all three people, may cause war conflicts, the SPS Vojvodina Committee set out in an announcement. The solution must be looked for in a democratic dialogue and agreement between the three peoples, in the framework of the conference on Bosnia-Hercegovina, the announcement said.

The Serbian Democratic Party [SDS] for Serbia said today that, now that the hatred "exploded in the Islamic fundamentalists' attack against everything that is Serbian and orthodox" in Bosnia-Hercegovina, Serbs in the Republic should know what to expect if they trust the intentions of the European Community which "has imposed the ominous referendum." The riots in Sarajevo took place after a referendum in which Muslims (who constitute a nation in Yugoslavia) and Croats voted for Bosnia-Hercegovina's sovereignty, despite the strong opposition of serbs who boycotted the voting.

The SDS for Serbia said it hoped the peoples in Bosnia-Hercegovina, who have proved wiser than their leaders, would understand that a war in the republic would mean a war in Europe as well. The association of Serbs in Croatia issued announcement in Belgrade today, saying that the Serbian blood on the streets of Sarajevo had proved the Muslim fundamentalists' determination to realize their decision to create an independent Muslim state, regardless of the victims.

There is no place for Serbs in such a state, the announcement said, adding that Bosnia-Hercegovina's president Alija Izetbegovic (who is the leader of the Muslim Party of Democratic Action) and his supporters "would be less militant without the help of the supporters abroad."

Draskovic Says Milosevic Must Resign

LD0303180392 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1744 GMT 2 Mar 92

[Text] Vienna, March 2 (TANJUG)—In an interview published by the Vienna weekly PROFIL today, leader of the Serbian Renewal Movement, the strongest opposition party in the Yugoslav Republic of Serbia, Vuk Draskovic said that Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic would have to step down.

"We will not employ force to topple him. He will step down when the people lose their patience with the disastrous economic situation in Serbia", Draskovic said. Draskovic said that the upcoming demonstrations of the opposition, scheduled for March 9, will not be violent "unless the police repeat the mistake they made last year" and that the demonstrations would prove that "another, young, democratic and modern Serbia" exists in Europe as well.

A policeman and a young man were killed and several scores of people were wounded during the March 9 demonstrations in Belgrade last year.

In response to the question how Serbia would resolve its economic problems, Draskovic said that "everything will be easy and simple—once Milosevic's regime is toppled. Serbia will be a more democatic state than Croatia, where primitive chauvinism reigns", Draskovic said. Draskovic maintains that there is no danger of a state of emergency being imposed in Serbia "because Milosevic has changed, realizing that he must accept the new reality, above all, the United Nations troops".

Radio, TV Sign Accord With Economic Chamber

LD0503103792 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1243 MT 3 Mar 92

[Text] Belgrade, 3 Mar (TANJUG)—In the future, Serbian Radio and Television will cooperate more fully with the republican Economic Chamber. An agreement on a business cooperation plan was signed today in Belgrade by Dobrosav Bjeletic, acting director general of Belgrade radio and television, and by Vlajko Stoiljkovic, chairman of the republican Economic Chamber.

The agreement envisages that Serbian radio and television will report in more detail about the work of the Chamber and the economy as a whole. For example, Belgrade television will set up an economic desk within the news and current affairs desk. A regular economic report will be broadcast once a week. Special attention will be paid to the progress of major economic structures, private enterprise, agriculture, and tourism. After setting up a fund to provide economic news about Serbia abroad, the chamber will set aside funds to rent a satellite to broadcast Serbian Radio and television programs.

Ethnic Albanians Vote for Autonomy

AU0403174092 Sarajevo Radio Sarajevo Network in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] At a news conference today, the central commission for carrying out the referendum on political autonomy for Albanians in the southern Serbian communes of Presevo, Bujanovac, and Medvedja announced that out of an electorate of 45,014 voters, 43,060, or 99.94 percent had voted for autonomy with the possibility of acceding to Kosovo.

Apart from the Albanians in these three communes, who make up more than 60 percent of the population, 45 Muslims, 12 Serbs, 21 Turks, and 23 Romanies voted for autonomy.

'Ethnic Albania' State Borders Map Published

LD0403230792 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1433 GMT 4 Mar 92

[Text] Pristina, 4 Mar (TANJUG)—The latest issue of DIELLI, a Pristina paper published in Albanian, carries on its front page a map of the "state borders" of "ethnic Albania."

Sjenica, Rozaje, Berane, Plav, Gusinje, Podgorica, Spuz and Tivat "entered" this "map" in the west, Mitrovica and Podujevo in the north, and Medvedja, Vranje, Bujanovac and Presevo in the northeast. Over one half of Macedonian land is to be found in this imaginary "ethnic Albania," so much so that Skopje, Prilep and Bitola are deep in this artificial entity, while Tetovo, Gostivar, Debar and Ohrid are right in the middle.

After noting that the great powers have disrupted the natural ethnic balance of the four most populous nations in the Balkans—Albanians, Serbs, Bulgars and Greeks—DIELLI says in an accompanying note that unless these states return to their original ethnic lands, peace in the Balkans will be temporary and unstable.

DIELLI is published by a "group of independent journalists in Kosovo."